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BIRTHS.

On June 21, 1907, at Tientsin, the wife of W. MORTON ANDREW, Chinese Customs Service, of a son.

On 25th June, at Shanghai, the wife of PHIL. V. DAVIES, a daughter.

On June 27, 1907, at Shanghai to Mr. and Mrs. C. E. ROACH, a daughter, Veronica Margaret.

July 3rd, at Exeter, the wife of GEORGE CURRY, a son.

MARRIAGE.

At Shanghai, ERNEST JAMES ETHERDEN, second son of J. H. Etherden, of Christchurch, N. Z., to GLADYS ESTELLE, eldest daughter of Calvin Etherden, of Portland, Oregon.

DEATH.

On May 24th, 1907, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, HELEN THOMSON, aged 31 years, the beloved wife of J. H. Arnold.

THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1907.

THE D. P. W.

(29th June.)

Everybody will be delighted to know that the merits and abilities of the Director of Public Works have been appreciated and recognised by His Majesty's Government at home and the bestowal of the Companionship of the Order of St. Michael and St. George is but an instalment of what may be expected to accrue to him in the future. In a manner this decoration is a compliment to this far-off post of the Empire, which is remembered amid a host of purely domestic problems which must perplex and try to the uttermost the acumen of His Majesty's Government. It is sometimes advisable to look for reasons for the conferment of decorations of this character, but in the case of Mr. Wm. Chatham it is obvious that work, nous and energy have had mainly, if not entirely, to do with it. Looking backwards, however, those who took the trouble to read between the lines might have surmised that Mr. Chatham was marked out for honour. In his farewell address to the Colony, Sir Matthew Nathan, then Governor of Hongkong, made special reference to the work accomplished by Mr. Chatham in his official capacity. Those who were present

will remember how specially insistent His Excellency was with regard to the reform achieved by Mr. Chatham and in his address he said:—"As regards heads of departments it may seem invidious to specially mention some where all have done good work, but I should feel wanting in gratitude if I made no reference to Mr. Chatham, to whom and to the hard working engineers under his able direction, the Colony owes so much." Mr. Chatham is an Edinburgh man, educated at the University of "Auld Reekie." After graduating he went with a firm of civil engineers and afterwards became assistant to the engineer of the Bristol Docks. In 1890 he was appointed executive engineer in the Public Works Department of this Colony, and eleven years later was appointed to the important and responsible position which he now occupies. It is needless to dilate upon the many public movements with which Mr. Chatham has been connected. Probably at the present time the most important of those might be considered his scheme for the better housing of the Chinese population which he submitted some five or six years ago, but in this connection that subject might be considered *sub judice*. He has been prominent as a member of the Sanitary Board, unfatigably endeavouring to secure the amelioration of the people and unwaveringly faithful to the best traditions left by Sir Henry Blake, and those of his kin. He has ever strongly believed in the construction of roads, and many to-day thank him for access to places in the New Territory where formerly swamps and wilderness prevailed. Mr. Chatham thoroughly well deserves his honour, and we are by no means the only people who will honestly congratulate him upon a distinction which none will so worthily honour and wear.

THE FRANCO-JAPANESE "ENTENTE."

In another section we give the official text of the Franco-Japanese agreement. As showing in what light the compact is regarded in Japan, it may be well to ascertain the opinion of Japanese papers regarding the *entente*. In dealing with the question of the material advantages which France will derive from the Franco-Japanese Agreement, some of the vernacular contemporaries consider that France will gain substantially in the reduction of armaments in Indo-China. Since the Russo-Japanese war, the French nation has, the native Press allege, been much concerned as to the defences of the colony. As the result of the Franco-Japanese Agreement the French Government may be able to reduce its military and naval forces in the Far East, and thus lighten itself of a rather heavy burden. The French Asiatic squadron at present consists of the flagship *d'Entrecasteaux*, and two cruisers; five river gunboats, two gunboats, five destroyers and four auxiliary cruisers. It is also pointed out that the French army in Indo-China consists of five brigades of infantry with a small force of various arms. The annual administrative expenditure of French Indo-China amounts to about £7,000,000, made up of £4,800,000 from local taxes in Cochinchina, Tonkin, Annam and Cambodia and other places, and £2,200,000 contribution from the French National Treasury. Of this sum, from £8,000,000 to £10,000,000 is spent upon defences, and now that the Franco-Japanese Agreement has been signed, France has no necessity of increasing her colonial burden, but on the contrary she may be able to reduce her military expenses by one-half.

CHINESE ENGINEERING AND MINING CO., LTD.

(1st July.)

Prominence was given locally to a highly improbable report in one of the numerous Chinese papers in Shanghai that the Chinese Engineering and Mining Company is to pay over to the new Company constituted of British and Chinese capital Taels 4,000,000 and appoint Chang Yen-mao Chinese Director-General. In another form the substance of the above telegram has found its way over the wires to Japanese papers from Shanghai. The *Yi* contains the statement that after ignoring for a long time the decisions of the London Court in the suit which Chang Yen-mao went to London to prosecute, the London Board have lately altered their attitude and have decided to carry out the judgment. "It has been settled," says the journal, "that the China Board shall be formed, and that the Company shall pay the Chinese a large indemnity for all the trouble and expense they have been put to, after which Chang Yen-mao will have all his lost honours restored to him." It was to be expected that such a report would attract the notice of our contemporaries at Tientsin; for, in a recent issue, one paper observed that "whatever else the native papers may lack we have never found want of confidence one of their attributes. Whether the matter in hand be diplomatic or social, political or commercial, with the slenderest lead they will forge ahead in the full assurance they have hold of the right end of the story and their facts are unimpeachable. So far as native news is concerned they are invariably naturally fairly reliable; but in regard to foreign concerns and doings they are as notoriously off the track as London papers in touching native affairs often prove themselves." In this instance, we learn from the *Peking and Tientsin Times* that, "though it is true that negotiations of a very satisfactory nature are in progress, nothing whatever has yet been settled, and the amount named by the *Yi* as an indemnity provokes a smile from those concerned. There is every reason

to hope and that before long all pending questions in connection with the Company will be settled in such a way as to satisfy every reasonable demand, but at the present moment any declaration of what will, or has been arranged, is premature." This statement will be read with interest by the numerous shareholders in Hongkong.

SINGAPORE DAIRIES.

(2nd July.)

For some time past, the Singapore newspapers have been engaged in the laudable duty of directing the attention of the Government to the conditions surrounding the milk trade of that Colony, and the danger which exists of engendering and disseminating the germs of disease unless vigorous measures are enforced to provide that adequate sanitary arrangements are observed. Their severe comments on many cases of unsatisfactory precautions being taken to prevent the spread of disease have been now amply supported and corroborated by Professor Simpson, the expert who was engaged by the Government at much cost to investigate the sanitary conditions of the Colony and to suggest measures for their betterment. In an important *B'ue Book* which has been compiled on the subject by Professor Simpson he states in substance that while there is practically no tuberculosis among cattle in Singapore, with very few exceptions the conditions under which milk is supplied to the public are extremely bad, and are a source of danger to adults and children who consume the milk unboiled. The distinguished writer, of course, comes into conflict with other authorities when he impliedly praises the virtues of boiled milk as a preventative of the propagation of germs, but that is beside the point in this case, which is specially concerned with the improvement of dairies generally. He states, according to one of our contemporaries in the South, that: "The milk trade in Singapore is conducted on two lines: (1) the dairyman supplies milk direct to customers; and (2) sells it by the quart to milk-sellers, who then carry it round to the houses and retail it either per bottle or per pint. In the first instance, the cans and bottles are kept and washed in the dairy; in the other instance, which represents the bulk of the milk trade, the bottles and cans are taken to the dairy by the milk sellers and kept cleaned, or rather should be kept clean by them at home. The bottles are carried in any dirty old cloth, or inside the milk cans and thus bathed in the milk." Certainly we have got beyond that rough and ready stage in Hongkong, where the larger dairies are the real purveyors of milk and where scrupulous attention is paid to every detail of the trade. It would seem no good purpose to dilate on the unfortunate conditions prevailing in certain of the quarters of the Singapore milk-sellers whose premises were visited by Professor Simpson. It is not a pleasant story he has to tell, and we are of the full belief that it would be impossible to discover similar objections to the dairies of Hongkong. In the case of the two important European dairies where everything is done to ensure cleanliness and every possible means adopted to meet the most stringent requirements of the law, there can be no reason for cavil. And there is little or no reason to fancy that the native suppliers are behind the European firms in this respect. But it may be of interest to note the conclusions and recommendations of the Professor, and it will be noted that he cites Hongkong as an example to follow, at least in connection with the contravention of sanitary conditions. Professor Simpson contends that the imposition of small fines, even continuously, is inadequate to bring about the necessary reforms, as the dairymen find it usually more remunerative to pay the fines than to put their premises in proper order. The Municipality should have power to abolish the buffalo and cow sheds erected on low-lying and unsuitable ground, and all notices requiring structural alterations, and the premises to be placed in such a state as to all of their being cleaned sufficiently and drained, should be sent to the owner of the building or land on which the cattle sheds, and so forth, are erected, at the owner's expense. The keeping of milch cows or buffaloes without a license should be prohibited, and anyone contravening the sanitary conditions endorsed on the license should be liable, as in Hongkong, to a heavy fine, and the forfeiture of all animals in respect to the keeping of which he had offended. The license should be an annual one, and it should not be granted unless the premises are to the satisfaction of the Health Officer. Finally, he suggests that possibly the most satisfactory method of dealing with the question would be to allow a private company, which is willing to erect a model dairy, under official supervision, to undertake the work, with assurance that, if it continues the business satisfactorily, the Hospitals and other Government Institutions would take their milk from it. By such an arrangement, a standard dairy could, gradually, be brought up to a similar standard. Practically the Professor gives a general commendation to the methods adopted in Hongkong and enforced by the Government to observe the law. That solitary cases of infringement occur now and then does not affect the main point, and it would indeed be a curious place which had no cases at any time of such minor infractions, but the good name of the European milk-sellers and the watchfulness exercised by and over the native retail houses are sufficient to secure a result which is eminently satisfactory. At all events, Professor Simpson is evidently not inclined to think that Hongkong has deteriorated in this particular respect, which is good news for everybody concerned.

H. E. CHOW FU.

(3rd July.)

His Excellency Chow Fu, who has held the important and dignified office of Viceroy of the Liang Kwang Provinces for the short period of barely eight months, arrived at Hongkong yesterday *en route* to Shanghai, having demitted duty on the appointment of His Excellency Tsien Chun Hsuan to the post which he formerly occupied as Acting Viceroy. Within the space of a few months would it be impossible for any administrator of a great and populous district to accomplish much of which will prove of ultimate permanent value to the people or to stamp his personality on the Government. The most that he can hope to achieve is the forwarding of the beneficial projects of his predecessor and the initiation of some few schemes of reform which may lead to the amelioration of the conditions under which the people live. While there are certain features of His Excellency Chow Fu's vicereynity which will not probably secure the approbation of his critics, it must be admitted that, after a fair and impartial review of his work, in the limited time at his disposal, His Excellency has succeeded in inaugurating a number of improvements and reforms which will prove of substantial and lasting gain, and should certainly obtain for him a niche which will be prominent in the Valhalla of the Provincial Government. Viewing his *regiment* is worst, to begin with, the advantages to be obtained by the revival of the Wei Seng Farm, the Pak-kap-pi and San Pui lotteries—which have exercised the most baneful influences in South China—and the granting of gambling monopolies, which Viceroy Shum had suppressed, are not quite obvious to the disinterested onlooker. Then, again, his apparent lethargy in the matter of repairing the sea-wall of the Bund at Canton—one of His Excellency Shum's pet ideas—until the contemplated return of his predecessor was announced, is scarcely susceptible of favour. It is true that, since the appointment of the energetic Shum was reported Chow Fu has evinced an entirely laudable desire to remedy the defects caused by the ravages of the river in flood, by sending a host of labourers to repair the deficiencies, but that cannot excuse the earlier lack of interest in the work. On the other hand, His Excellency has witnessed the actual commencement of the waterworks scheme, which will eventually prove one of the most important public improvements effected in Canton, and the formation of the Canton Iron Bridge Company, with which a prominent Chinese comrade in Hongkong, Mr. Lau Chin Ting, is associated as chairman. His administration will, doubtless, be best remembered on account of the uprisings which only recently occurred in South-west and North-east Kwangtung, and it is to his credit that prompt and effective measures were adopted—probably on the advice of Admiral Li Chun—whereby the incipient insurrection proved abortive. Viceroy Chow Fu exhibited considerable ability in the industrial concerns which were favoured by the Government, such as the paper-mills, the talk of cement factory, the match factory and, of course, the principal industry of South China, the silk-weaving trades. He has given attention also to the prospective development of the mineral resources of the two Provinces, expert prospecting having been made for coal, iron, antimony, silver and gold. Acting at the instance of foreign representations against the continuance of piracy on the West River, His Excellency initiated a system of patrol by detailing the fleet of fourteen launches to look after various sections covering the inner waterways of South China. In Canton, Viceroy Chow Fu carried out several important public improvements, including the widening of the streets, the suppression of itinerant vendors, the abolition of signboards, the introduction of electric alarms for speedy notification to the police in cases of felonies and disasters, and other minor reforms which all tended to bring the city more into line with modern ideas. One feature which is entirely to his credit was his reception of consular officials, his accessibility to foreigners generally and his reasonableness in dealing with their requests. He received more official visits from the foreign officials accredited to his Government and maintained the official amenities better than any of his predecessors. With regard to the opium question, His Excellency has been indefatigable in his efforts to abate the evil of opium-smoking, and lately issued a representation on the subject to the river steamer companies requesting their co-operation by prohibiting the use of opium on the voyages to and from Canton, an order which will affect thousands of passengers. It was Chow Fu who concluded the Canton-Kowloon Agreement with the representative of the British and Chinese Corporation, Mr. J. P. O. Bland. Together, His Excellency has proved a paternal administrator, and if he has done nothing very wonderful as the result of his labours he has, at least, fallen into few errors of judgment, which in itself is a tribute to his sagacity.

INDEPENDENCE DAY.

(4th July.)

To-day, the members of the growing American community in Hongkong are celebrating with the characteristic energy and *élan* of the inhabitants of the Great Republic the national holiday of Independence Day. Time was when the event would have brought bitter recollections to those Britons who hold a certain form of

patriotism, just as Trafalgar Day might have touched the sensibilities of our friends of the *entente cordiale*. But all that "is past and done with, long ago and far away," and the fact that Britons are as willing to join with their cousins in celebrating the occasion in the time-honoured fashion of Anglo-Saxons is evidence of how the past is forgotten and the present only considered. In Hongkong especially the relations between the two families whose national tongue is the English language were never more cordial than they are at present, thanks in great measure to the genial qualities of the Consul-General of the United States, Mr. Amos P. Wilder, and the *bonhomie* of the rest of the bustling band of Americans resident in this Colony. At the Consulate to-day all nationalities offered their felicitations, from His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government downwards, and enjoyed the hospitality of the Consul-General and his staff. It may sometimes happen that commercial men in Hongkong will look somewhat askance at the efforts of our neighbours in the Philippines, which have for their object the wresting from us of our trade with the Pacific, but the knowledge of that fact should only help to spur them on to greater energy in order that they and the Colony may retain what has been won at so much cost and labour. It is no secret that Manila hopes one of these fine days to become the distributing port for China, ousting both Hongkong and Shanghai from the pre-eminence which they at present enjoy, mainly through their respective positions as convenient centres for South and North China, but that day has yet to come, and there are features, in what might be termed the political life of the Colony, such as the opening by railway communications of areas which have hitherto remained undeveloped, that augur continued prosperity for the port, despite the commercial competition of our rivals in the South. Even though there may be this rivalry between the two friendly Colonies such a consideration is not allowed to interfere with the celebration of Independence Day. We can only trust that the connection which binds Hongkong to Manila, the business interests which join this port with the Pacific Slope and the mutual regard which prevails between the members of the two countries in the Colony may long continue to subsist, become increasingly expansive and more markedly fraternal.

THE POLICE AND THE PRESS.

Happy, indeed, are those pressmen in Hongkong who in the course of their duties are brought into connection with the police as compared with their brethren in Shanghai. Instead of there being a *bon camaraderie* between pressmen and police as there is here, the journalists of Shanghai and the police officials are, metaphorically speaking, at daggers drawn, the latter showing the chief exhibition of antagonism. The following from a Shanghai paper illustrates the position, and our *conferees* in the North must sincerely wish that their lives were cast in the pleasant groove of Hongkong. An incident which occurred at the Mixed Court the other day in connection with a morning contemporary opens up the general question of the attitude of the Police authorities towards the Press of Shanghai. During the hearing of a case an inspector of the Shanghai Municipal Police, acting under instructions from the Acting Captain Superintendent, handed to the Bench a copy of the newspaper in question, with the observation, also emanating from the aforesaid source of wisdom, that the article was absolutely false. The statement complained of was to the effect that the police expected to find an armoury of weapons in the prisoner's house when it was searched. This alleged false statement in the result, as the trial proceeded, proved to contain a very considerable portion of fact, although so loosely characterised as untrue, and the main fault to be found with it was that by anticipating the intentions of the Police, "it hampered them in their work," to use the words of the Assessor to whom the report was shown. That gentleman, while expressing that opinion, also remarked that he had no control over the paper in question, and nothing could be done. He must also, we imagine, have regarded the proceeding of complaining of a foreign newspaper, in the manner adopted, as an exceedingly childish one, and quite worthy of the youthful official who instigated it. The *Shanghai Times* remarks that if that journal had been a Chinese publication the Mixed Court would undoubtedly be the proper place to lodge a protest concerning it, and the less enlightened Chinese law respecting the liberty of the Press might have been brought to bear. But that particular journal is a foreign production responsible only to its own authorities, and even then not to the extent the head of the Police in Shanghai would appear to like. The paragraph in question was stated as being calculated to injure the work of the Police in bringing criminals to justice, and we (as the paper in question says) would be the last to advocate the publication of facts which are really likely to interfere with the already difficult work of the Police, as a general policy for the Press to pursue. In this case, however, we believe the journal was actuated by perfectly *bona-fide* motives. The house to be searched is situated in the French Concession and information was obtained that the French Police were about to institute a search on the night prior to the publication, or next day. At all events, there were no grounds for assuming that the Shanghai Municipal Police would search a house in the French Concession without par-

mission, and the injury, if any injury has been done, is suffered by the French Police, unless it was the intention of the Municipal Police to dispense with the formality of obtaining French permission, to take in fact "French leave," and were thwarted by the premature publication of such intention. But apart from this incident the general relations of the Police with the Press have not of late been cordial, and the incident we have referred to is only one outcome of the Police attitude. Like the Police, the Press also has a duty to the public, and the importance of that duty is a side issue which needs no discussion here. We do not believe there is a desire among those who conduct any of the Shanghai newspapers to do anything which will render the duties of the Police more onerous than they already are, but there are legitimate items of news which the public has a distinct right to be placed in possession of, and the Police are the only medium through which they can come to light. Street accidents, fires, crimes, all come within their cognizance, and all are of public interest. In the majority of instances there would seem to be no reason why information should not be freely furnished when it is asked for, but far from that being the case, pressmen who desire, in the course of their duties, to learn any facts which may be known, are forced to resort to all kinds of subterfuges, and to risk insult. There are some fourteen courts in Shanghai before which the Police bring cases. It is impossible for the Press to attend each one, and even if they could, the language difficulty would render the time wasted. The Police must be largely relied on therefore, but quite as much difficulty is experienced in persuading those in charge at the Stations to give details of cases which have been before the courts and dealt with, as an inquirer might meet with in attempting to probe the secrets of the Foreign Office. He is told that an order has been issued that no information may be given to the Press. Indeed the excuses made for withholding from the public news which it should know are legion, and they are very seldom truthful. There are too many police officials those who have their favourite pressmen, and to these individuals they unobscure themselves. This is noticeable more than anywhere else at Hongkong. Nor have we found any great reserve adhered to by those police officers who have axes to grind. If any kudos is to be gained, the official who wants an advertisement knows where and how he may get it for nothing, though a corresponding readiness to oblige cannot always be looked for by the Press. But it is a curious fact that however many orders are issued from headquarters forbidding communication with the Press, there are always certain newspapers which appear in a miraculous way to be exempt, and whose representatives succeed where others, be they never so polite, fail. So long as the Police continue this ostentatious and absurd reticence in matters which the Press regard it as their duty to make public, so long will incidents like that drawn attention to at the Mixed Court occur, and it is to be hoped that the acting head of the force will recognise that while ensuring that public interests are not adversely affected, it is better for all concerned that reliable and ungarbled information should be placed at the disposal of the Press when it is civilly and properly inquired for, rather than to force newspapers to publish only partially truthful reports gathered by roundabout means.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE.

(5th July.)

From the Japanese Minister of Finance we have received a bulky volume entitled "The Seventh Financial and Economic Annual of Japan," which simply teems with information and must prove a perfect mine of knowledge for those who desire to obtain an accurate conception of the progress which has been made by that remarkable kingdom. Facts and figures jostle each other throughout the report to such an extent that they are apt to produce at first sight a motion of bewilderment, but a short survey of the work is sufficient to show how admirably the scheme of tabulation has been arranged. There are in all six sections devoted respectively to finance; agriculture, industry and commerce; foreign trade; banking and money market; communications; and Taiwan and Korafuto. While there is also, under the head of "Appendix," important articles dealing with the financial affairs of Korea, the finance and economy of Kwangtung Province, the financial system of Japan, and the currency system in that country. From these bold outlines it will be recognised that practically the entire commercial interests of the country are encompassed within the covers of this report, and that little or nothing which has taken definite shape and form in the way of commerce is left untouched. Manifestly, it would be impossible to deal with all the intricate and thought-inspiring statements and dissertations which have been brought together and tenderly expressed in the "Financial and Economic Annual" in the space of a single article, but the broad assertion may be made that the briefest study of the figures collected will afford a clearer understanding why every Japanese should have, as the Scotch say, "a guid conceit o' himself." To the foreign reader who glances carefully through the statistics it is safe to say that the Japanese weights and measures which necessarily crop up on almost every page will prove somewhat of a stumbling-block, even although there is an introductory table showing the British and French equivalents. But that aside, the contents of the annual are absorbingly interesting

and furnish matter for reflection at all points. Perhaps the section which will most keenly appeal to the non-Japanese reader is that devoted to foreign trade. An elaborate series of statistics is followed by an epitome which traces the rise and advance of Japan's relations with other countries from 1857 till the present time. The story is told in the most prosaic language, fact piled on fact without a single meditative break, but the very absence of rhetorical fireworks, the absolute plainness of speech and devotion to excitement are in themselves calculated to enhance the value of this historical document and arrest the attention of the reader. Three hundred years ago there was no foreign trade beyond that carried on by the adventurous merchants who defied the dangers by sea and the restrictions imposed by the shogun. The overseas trade really dates from 1858 when commercial treaties were concluded with Great Britain, the United States of America, and three other Powers; and the rates of import and export duties were fixed by agreement with them, while at the same time a few important ports were opened to foreign commerce. Rapid development followed, and in 1866 the Conventional tariffs with Great Britain and the United States were revised. The writer remarks: "From 1869 to 1881 was the period during which, with the single exception of 1876, the imports exceeded the exports, while during the following twelve years from 1882 to 1893 there was, with the exception of 1890, an annual excess of exports over imports. In the course of these years absolute order was restored in the country, a constitutional government was established on a firm basis, and both the Government and people concentrated all their efforts upon productive industry; all which produced their due effect upon our foreign trade, and, moreover, the steady depreciation of silver in those years were indirectly of great advantage to the expansion of our export trade." The war in 1894 had no perceptible effect on the commercial prosperity of the country, whose merchants were seizing every opportunity to expand the ramifications of their foreign connections, and development has been the rule all along the line until, at the present time, the importance of Japan as a factor in the world's markets is both appreciated and feared. Turning to the sub-section of the article in question dealing with trade relations with other countries, we learn that according to the trade returns for 1906, the country which does the largest amount of trade with Japan is the United States whose exports and imports stood at about yen 196,000,000 (£20,081,967), followed by China with yen 175,000,000 (£17,990,338) and Great Britain with yen 124,000,000 (£12,704,918). The largest customer in 1906 was the United States whose imports from Japan amounted to yen 126,000,000 (£12,909,836), followed by China with yen 118,000,000 (£12,099,164), France with yen 40,000,000 (£4,099,391), Korea with yen 25,000,000 (£2,561,475), Great Britain with yen 23,000,000 (£2,356,557), and Italy with yen 12,000,000 (£1,229,508); these figures are eight and a half times the corresponding figures for 1896 in the case of China, seven and a half times in the case of Korea, four times each in the case of the United States and Italy, and a little more than twice in the cases of Great Britain and France. The largest exporter to Japan in 1906 was Great Britain from whom imports to the amount of yen 101,000,000 (£10,348,161) were taken, followed by the United States with yen 70,000,000 (£7,172,131), British India with yen 60,000,000 (£6,149,841), China with yen 57,000,000 (£5,840,163), Germany with yen 42,000,000 (£4,303,273), the Netherlands Indies with yen 24,000,000 (£2,459,016), and Belgium with yen 10,000,000 (£1,034,590). The entire report is from beginning to end one of advancement and success in fighting the commercial battle with foreign competitors. From the Japanese standpoint the record is not merely satisfactory but inspiring. As the result probably of the impetus given to trade after the war there was an evident inclination on the part of Japanese merchants and financiers to "plunge," which brought about the inevitable financial crisis in which twelve banks had to close their doors. But the super-optimism which prevailed in the early part of this year has been cooled and the mercantile thermometer steadied, so that the outlook at the present day is as hopeful as could be desired.

HONGKONG WATER POLO ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the above Association was held at the Victoria Recreation Club last Thursday at 5.30 p.m. Present: Messrs J. W. Baines (chairman), R. Henderson, J. Rodger, W. Gossin (V.R.C. sub-committee), R. C. Whitwell (Christian Yacht Club), F. A. Bides (Royal Yacht Club), H. C. Syer, H. A. Lam (V.R.C.), W. J. Carroll (Hon. Secretary), Staff-Serg. Western (R.E.), Lance-Corpl. Cox (Middlesex Regiment), Gunners Canter and Ward (87th Company, R.G.A.). The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting. The report and accounts for 1906 as read was proposed by Mr. Baines and seconded by Mr. Henderson. Carried unanimously. Proposed by Mr. Bides and seconded by Staff-Serg. Western that entries for the Water Polo Shield Competition should close on Thursday, 11th inst. Proposed by Staff-Serg. Western and seconded by Mr. Whitwell that Mr. Henderson be appointed official referee for the coming season. It was also suggested by Staff-Serg. Western and seconded by Mr. Bides that in the event of the official referee being unable to attend any matches, it be left to Mr. Henderson's discretion to appoint a referee to take his place. Proposed by Staff-Serg. Western and seconded by Mr. Rodger that Mr. Carroll be appointed hon. secretary and treasurer for the coming season. Carried unanimously. It was suggested by Mr. Bides that Mr. Gossin's proposition with regard to the amount charged to spectators for admission to see Water Polo matches be decided, be left to the V.R.C. sub-committee to be decided. It was arranged that the next meeting with regard to dress will be held at the V.R.C. on Friday, 12th inst.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

ANTI-OPIMUM CRUSADE.

SHOPKEEPERS IMPRISONED.

PROPERTY CONFISCATED.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 20th June, 11.25 a.m.

Two shopkeepers were arrested in the native city for disobeying the Anti-Opium Regulations. They have been tried and sentenced to imprisonment, and their property ordered to be confiscated to Government.

VICEROY SHUM.

LEAVE FURTHER EXTENDED.

PROCEEDING SOUTH UPON EXPIRY.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shameen, 30th June, 3.15 p.m.

Viceroy Shum has been granted another extension of ten days' leave at Shanghai.

The Throne granted this further extension with orders, however, that his Excellency should proceed South upon the expiry of his extended leave.

EXIT CHOW FU.

VICEROY'S LOCUM TENENS.

PROVINCIAL TREASURER APPOINTED.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 30th June, 4.10 p.m.

His Excellency Viceroy Chow Fu has telegraphed to Peking requesting the appointment of an official, temporarily, to administer the Government pending the arrival of substantive Viceroy designate Shum.

In reply, his Excellency has received a telegraphic despatch from the Grand Council at Peking ordering the appointment of Provincial Treasurer Wu to take temporary charge of the Viceroyalty of the two Kwang.

WU ASSUMES CHARGE.

CHOW FU'S DEPARTURE FOR HONGKONG.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 30th June, 4.25 p.m.

Chow Fu, in accordance with Imperial instructions, has handed over charge of office to Treasurer Wu. His Excellency has just taken his departure from Canton by Admiral Li Chun's launch for Hongkong.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

RECRUITS PARADE.

Parade.—At Headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Monday, the 8th July, for infantry drill. Col. Sergt. Stacey will attend.

Parade.—At Headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday, the 10th July, for lecture on mechanism of machine gun. Sergt. Windsor R.G.A. will attend.

N. C. O.'S PARADE.

Parade.—At Headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday, the 10th inst., for instructional drill. Sergt. White, R.G.A., will attend.

Note.—Members attending the infantry drills must bring their own rifles. No rifles will be issued for the armory for these parades.

LEAVE.

Gunner A. N. Clothier is granted leave of absence out of the Colony for 3 months with effect from the 1st August, 1907.

Armourer Sergt. G. W. Avenell is granted leave of absence out of the Colony for 4 weeks with effect from the 10th July, 1907.

JOINED.

Mr. R. A. Taylor joined the Corps on the 25th June, 1907, assigned Corps No. 969 and posted to the Engineer Company.

Mr. G. G. Franklin joined the Corps on the 1st July, 1907, assigned Corps No. 970 and posted to the Right Half No. 2 Company.

Mr. W. Thom (Jr.) joined the Corps on the 2nd July, 1907, assigned Corps No. 971 and posted to the Engineer Company.

Mr. H. C. Carmichael joined the Corps on the 2nd July, 1907, assigned Corps No. 972 and posted to the Left Half No. 1 Company.

Mr. R. K. Miller joined the Corps on the 2nd July, 1907, assigned Corps No. 973 and posted to the Left Half No. 2 Company.

Mr. R. Bridger joined the Corps on the 2nd July, 1907, assigned Corps No. 974 and posted to the Left Half No. 2 Company.

RESIGNED.

Bombardier A. E. Rogers is permitted to resign on leaving the Colony with effect from the 1st July, 1907.

RIGHT HALF NO. 1 COMPANY.

Members are reminded that the list sheet for the Nicholson Cup will take place on Sunday next, the 7th inst., at King's Park Range Kowloon. Spoon competition will be carried on as usual.

A. J. THOMPSON, Captain.

Staff Officer Hongkong Volunteer Corps, Hongkong, 3rd July, 1907.

Two Chinese women, who arrived in the Colony on the 28th ultimo from Canton, were found to have been in possession of 300 taels of illicit opium. They were arrested. Taken before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court on the 30th, they were fined 1000 each, the alternative being six months' hard labour.

KWANG VICEROYALTY.

DEPARTURE OF H.E. CHOW FU.

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 1st July.

H.E. Viceroy Shum has been granted another ten days' leave by the Throne with orders to proceed to his new post without delay upon expiry. His resignation from the Liang Kwang Viceroyalty has been again refused.

Although the Imperial Government has refused his resignation, Viceroy Shum still persists in not coming to Canton, and has now removed his residence from the Shanghai Foreign Bureau to a private house in the city. He has sent all the military officers, about sixty in number, who had intended to accompany him to Canton for service, to the North to await other appointments.

As H.E. Viceroy Shum's departure from Shanghai is uncertain, H.E. Chow telegraphed to the central Government for the appointment of an official to take over charge, temporarily, of the Viceroyalty pending the arrival of Shum. On Saturday evening at nine o'clock a telegram was received from the Grand Council ordering the present Provincial Treasurer Wu Shang-Lin to assume the reins of government for the time being. On receipt of the above reply H.E. Chow at once made arrangements for the handing over charge, and at nine o'clock on Sunday morning he sent the seals of office, etc., by the Kwangchow Prefect to the Provincial Treasurer's yamen. Provincial Treasurer Wu yesterday, at noon, took over charge of office in the afternoon. H.E. Chow left his yamen and left Canton on board Admiral and Commander-in-Chief Li Chun's official launch for Hongkong. It is H.E.'s intention to board the C. M. S. N. Go's s.s. *Anglo-Asia* for the North.

As H.E. Wu, the Provincial Treasurer, has taken over the viceregal duties, Tantai Wu Hu of the Kwangchow circuit has been appointed to take over the duties of the Provincial Treasurer, and he took over charge also yesterday afternoon.

JUDGESHIP.

The Provincial Judge Chu Shou Yung of Kwangtung was appointed, in exchange place with Provincial Judge Chang Hiao-tai of Anhui, but as no fixed date has been appointed for Chang's arrival, Chu petitioned H.E. Chow to appoint an official to temporarily relieve him, pending the arrival of Chang H.E. Chow therefore appointed Tantai Kung Sun Tsau to take over the temporary duties; Kung will take over charge of office to-morrow.

TREASURERSHIP.

The newly appointed Provincial Examiner of Kwangtung, Ye, yesterday morning took over charge of the Provincial Treasurership, vice Treasurer Wu appointed Viceroy pro tem.

EDUCATION.

A few days ago H.E. the Viceroy received a despatch from the Ministry of Education at Peking stating that, although preparatory schools have now been opened throughout the province, still there are many districts in which these schools are not yet opened, and requested H.E. to inquire and to report on the number of schools in each district. Upon receipt of this despatch the Viceroy instructed the Provincial Examiner to see that these preparatory schools are opened at whatever place where they do not exist and to see that all schools are duly registered at the Educational Bureau.

RICE SALES.

The amounts realized at the different rice disposal markets for the past two days were as follows:—25th ultimo Eastern shed, \$1,109; Western shed \$2,240; Honam shed, \$1,300 and Wongsba shed, \$1,505; 28th ultimo Eastern shed, \$2,065; Western shed \$2,107; Wongsba shed \$1,370 and Honam shed \$1,370.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

As the accounts, etc., of the Canton-Hankow Railway Company have already been examined by the officials by order of H.E. Viceroy Chow, and everything has been found correct, the Company requested H.E. to issue a proclamation showing the accounts of the company so as to remove the disagreeable feelings animating different parties of shareholders. The other day, before his departure, H.E. Chow issued a proclamation to that effect. The amounts of subscriptions collected on the first instalment of 20% of the capital is \$5,545 taels and the expenditure from the first month of last year to the fourth month of the present year is 1,472,275 taels, leaving now a balance of 5,073,275 taels.

ANTI-OPIMUM CRUSADE.

On the 20th ultimo a meeting was held in the Pong-Pin Hospital for the purpose of making arrangements to receive opium smoking patients, when the prohibition of opium smoking and the closing of opium dens came into effect by the end of the 6th moon at the latest. There were present over two hundred persons at the meeting and Mr. Chan Wai-poi, the superintendent of the Hospital, was voted to be the chief official. The proposals of the Hospital for the admission of opium smoking patients and the distribution of anti-opium pills has been unanimously approved of.

A DEAF DEFENDANT.

SENT TO HOSPITAL WITH A NEW NAME.

5th inst.

An old woman, who is supposed to be deaf, was brought before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court, this morning, on a charge of hawking vegetables without a permit. Try how the interpreter would be could not get the old dame to speak. Inspector Warnock, who was on charge-room duty when the accused was arrested yesterday, explained that he also had tried to get the woman's name, but it was useless. She would neither speak or write. For a minute or two the business of the Court was paralyzed.

The interpreter broke the stillness. "What's your name?" he demanded. The woman looked at him and smiled.

Sombody at the back of the Court murmured to a friend that the defendant was deaf. This was heard in the body of the Court and the usher was instructed to fetch that person in. When a motherly-looking individual appeared everyone looked for some amusement.

Mr. Hazeland—Do you know the defendant? "Yes," replied the woman. "She lives with me, and is deaf."

Mr. Hazeland—How can she be a hawker when she is deaf?—She picked up the vegetables and brings them home!

What is her name? Do you know?—I do not.

This woman is living with you and you don't know her name?—No, I do not. We live together but we don't speak as she cannot hear what I say.

Mr. Hazeland—I think the best thing to be done will be to take her to hospital for examination. I think she is charming.

Inspector Warnock—I don't know if she will be allowed to enter the goal hospital as she has no name.

Mr. Hazeland—Then describe her as "Deaf and Dumb."—No.

The case was then adjourned for a week.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

BISHOP HOARE MEMOIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." SIR.—We shall be glad if you will allow us, through the columns of your newspaper, to inform the many friends of the late Bishop Hoare that it is proposed to erect a stained-glass window in the Cathedral Church of St. John the Evangelist, Hongkong, as a memorial of his eight years' tenure of the See of Victoria, South China.

It is estimated that the cost of this window will be at least 15,000, and to procure this amount has been decided to initiate a fund to be called the Bishop Hoare Memorial Fund. Mr. J. C. Peier, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, has kindly consented to act as Hon. Treasurer and will be glad to receive donations towards the proposed memorial.

We are, etc., J. M. ATKINSON, G. A. BUNBURY, Hon. Secretaries. J. T. JOHNSON.

The following circular accompanies the above letter, and will, we feel sure, obtain a large response on the part of those who appreciated the character and work of the late prelate:—

Hongkong, June, 1907. Nine months have now passed away since the disaster of typhoon of September 18th, 1906, during which it pleased God to call to himself our beloved Bishop, the Right Rev. Joseph Charles Hoare, D.D., one of the noblest and brightest personalities whom it has been our privilege to know.

For some time past it has been felt to be desirable that some Memorial of the late Bishop should be erected in the Colony of Hongkong and wonder has been expressed that so long a time should have been allowed to elapse before any steps were taken in the matter; we desire, however, to state that good reasons for the delay existed, one of the chief reasons being the fact that those nearest and dearest to the Bishop were above all things anxious that no sympathy with them should be allowed to interfere in any way with the outflow of charity to those of the Chinese Community who had suffered so severely in that same typhoon.

At a meeting of the Hongkong Colonial Church Council held in March a Committee was appointed to consider the question of a Memorial, and at a more recent meeting of the Colonial Church Council, when the report of the Committee had been received, it was definitely resolved that a Memorial should be erected and that it should take the form, with the approval and sanction of the Cathedral Church Body, of a Memorial Window in the Cathedral Church of St. John the Evangelist, Hongkong. We are glad to be able to say that the Cathedral Church Body have cordially approved of the plan and have indicated the large window of the South Transept as the most suitable window for the Memorial.

It is estimated that the cost of this window will be at least 15,000 and to procure this amount it has been decided to initiate a fund to be called the Bishop Hoare Memorial Fund; Mr. J. C. Peier, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, has been appointed Hon. Treasurer; the Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson, the Rev. G. A. Bunbury, and the Rev. F. T. Johnson have been appointed Hon. Secretaries, and those named with the Venerable Archdeacon Baister as Chairman, and Mr. H. W. Slade, have been appointed an Executive Committee.

We venture to appeal to all those who knew and loved our late Bishop to join in erecting a Memorial which shall be worthy of the man and which shall perpetuate in this place the eight years' episcopate of one whose life, lived in the sight of all men, was ever a trumpet-call to others to put away all that was evil and to follow all that was pure and just and good. The services of God which he rendered to the world for which Bishop Hoare lived and to lead others to know and serve his own Master was the great object of his life. A true Christian gentleman, a devoted Pastor, a sincere friend, a wise counsellor, such a man deserves to be remembered, and we trust that as in years to come men look upon this Memorial, it may be truly said of him whom it commemorates "He heard dead yet speaketh."

We are, etc., Yours faithfully, W. B. HAMSTER, Chairman of Executive Committee.

J. M. ATKINSON, G. A. BUNBURY, Hon. Secretaries. F. T. JOHNSON.

N.B.—Donations may be sent to Mr. J. C. Peier, Hon. Treasurer, or to the Hon. Secretaries.

ARREST OF MR. CHUNG WENG KWONG OF CANTON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." DEAR SIR.—The following account, clipped from yesterday's "China Times," of this place, will be of interest to many of your readers:—

CHINESE PROFESSOR ARRESTED AT PAO-TING.

HIS INNOCENCE PROTESTED.

[From a Correspondent.]

On Monday night, in obedience to a telegraphic order from H.E. Viceroy Shum, a disreputable Cantonese scholar, named Chung, was arrested by the police in Pao-tung fu, where he was spending a few days en route from Peking to Hankow and the south.

It seems that Mr. Chung, who has for many years, together with many of his provincial friends in the ports, discarded the queue and adopted foreign costume, has been visiting the schools of Tientsin, Peking and Pao-tung in search of excellences in the educational system of the north which could be advantageously adopted in the south, and has excited the suspicion of the authorities in so doing.

Dr. Winner, President of the Ling Nam College, Canton, in which Mr. Chung has for eight years been the professor of the Chinese language, has been his ardent advocate in this tour of the leading schools of the province, and expresses his full confidence, based on the constant intercourse of these years, that Mr. Chung is innocent of complicity in revolutionary propaganda, and that a careful examination of his effects will demonstrate this.

We learn that Mr. Chung, who is a masterful writer, was until 1900 associate editor of a daily paper in the city of Canton. Since that time he has been well known in Canton as a professor in the above mentioned college, and has not been the subject of accusation. While recognized as a progressive man of marked ability, Mr. Chung is said to deprecate any resort to revolutionary measures to accomplish that reform in China which, in his judgment, can only be attained through the mental and moral development of China's youth. He has been heard to declare that the modern educator in China has higher business than to be meddling in revolutionary agitation.

H.E. Viceroy Shum has here an opportunity to increase the confidence, so generally felt in him as a statesman of the superior modern type by giving to this case such a deliberate, impartial and generous hearing as the accused would have in the courts of Britain.

As stated in the above clipping, Mr. Chung (whose full name is Chung Weng Kwong) and I were travelling together at the time of his arrest. We had spent some time visiting schools in Japan and came here, with a like purpose in view. We had spent a very profitable week in Tientsin and several days in Peking before going to Pao-tung. Our object was to investigate the various kinds of schools, inquiring into the subjects taught and the methods employed, with a view primarily to taking suggestions for the improvement of the work in diocesan Third Union, the Canton Christian College. The abundant evidences here of a progressive spirit in the Government of this province together with the singleness and integrity of our purpose prevented us from entertaining even a suspicion of danger, and this arrest came with the suddenness and unexpectedness of an earthquake.

At the same time, as I think of it now, I can understand how from the point of view of the Chinese officials there were many things to make Mr. Chung the object of their suspicion. In the first place he had just arrived from Japan, where a Chinese student had been killed in a riot in Tokyo alone, a veritable hot-bed of sedition and plotting, and the source of a large part of the revolutionary literature that has been flooding China. Official China is looking askance at all students returning from Japan. Guarantees are wanted that they have not become tainted with disloyalty during their residence abroad. Add to this that Mr. Chung does not wear a queue and dresses in European costume, and that he is a free scholar with a decidedly marked personality, and that he was visiting the leading centres of the North and that he was going into all sorts of institutions and trying to learn about all sorts of things, and it is not at all wonderful that he should have attracted attention.

Unfortunately just now for a stranger to attract attention means almost necessarily that he excites suspicion. There are disturbances in the South, and rumours of attempted revolution that may break out anywhere and at any time. Only the other day there was a seizure of an iron-ore mine, 4,800 rifles at this port, of which no satisfactory account could be given. It has been reported that revolutionary leaders are coming over from Japan. The police are accordingly displaying remarkable activity and watchfulness.

Mr. Chung was brought from Pao-tung in a special car under a strong guard. He was kindly treated, but was evidently regarded as a very important individual. One of the first acts of the police was to secure his personal effects, and these were brought along with him under official seal. Tientsin. Four Pao-tung men, members of the Presbyterian Mission there with whom we were staying, were detained along with Mr. Chung. Two of these have since been released. The only fact that we were able to gather from the officials in Pao-tung was that the arrest was made under orders from Viceroy Yuan Shih Kai transmitted by telegraph, and that Mr. Chung was wanted in Tientsin. No charges were stated. Until to-day we were in complete ignorance as to the charges against him. But to-day we have found out where he is confined and that the examination is in the hands of a Mr. Tsai, Interpreter to the Viceroy, a man with an American education, and said to be a fair minded person. We have also learned that in the course of two examinations nothing damaging to the accused has been brought out. It is also reported that an examination of his record in South China has been ordered. This is all we know at present. We have prepared a brief statement of the course of our travels, the reasons for our being in North China, and my knowledge of the character of the man whom they evidently suspect of treasonable designs, and this statement has been courteously transmitted to the Viceroy by Mr. Ragdale, the American Consul-General here.

I shall keep you informed as to the progress of the case.—Yours very truly,

O. F. WISER.

Tientsin, North China, 21st June, 1907.

THE PROHIBITION OF OPIMUM.

AN IMPERIAL EDICT.

The consumption of opium is a great calamity to the people of this Empire. Last year we issued an edict prohibiting the cultivation of opium, and the Government of Szechuan (Peking and dependencies) and the Viceroy and Governors and Tartar Generals throughout the provinces and also commanded the various yamens concerned to see to it that the said regulations should be observed in every detail by one and all.

In the 3rd month of this year (April-May) we again issued an Imperial Decree reiterating our previous commands in the high provincial authorities to impress upon their respective subordinates the vital importance of obeying to the letter and putting into force the regulations, concerning the cultivation of the poppy and the sale and consumption of the drug, which were drawn up at our command last year and which received our approval and sanction at the time.

In our anxiety for the welfare of our people and the desire to eradicate evils harmful to them it must be understood once for all, that this matter—the prohibition of opium must be put into force without fail, and it is our command that the Government of Szechuan (Peking and dependencies) and the Viceroy and Governors and Tartar Generals throughout our Empire shall see to it that our wishes are strictly obeyed by themselves and their subordinates. Let each family, each household be exhorted to put away from themselves a obnoxious habit, and like a disease let it be plucked out by the roots. It shall be the duty of the Customs Service diligently to keep watch over the import of opium from the foreign countries, and to make it most important to see to it that the Imperial regulations on the subject of the planting and cultivation of the poppy within the Empire shall be obeyed and the production reduced, each year, so that the cultivation of the drug shall cease within the limit of time set for it by the said Imperial regulations. We further command the said Viceroys, Governors and Tartar Generals to keep a strict account of the conduct of their respective subordinates, those who honestly and diligently put into force our regulations and see to their strict observance by the people. Permission is hereby given for such energetic officers to be recommended to the Throne for special rewards. Those who are careless in the performance of their duties, who pay superficial obedience but actually violate the regulations in secret, must be reported to us for punishment. Let care be taken to keep strict account of the area of land committed to the cultivation throughout the Empire and a list drawn up in detail for reference, which must be sent up to the Ministry concerned for report to the Throne, in order that all may know our anxiety for the welfare of our people and our desire to eradicate all existing abuses harmful to them.—M. C. D. News.

It is notified in the Gazette that the certificates of competency of masters and engineers of steamships not exceeding 50 tons, when under way in the waters of the Colony, are always to be on board the vessel, ready to be produced on inspection by the Harbour Master or his deputy, or by any officer of police.

MR. J. R. MICHAEL.

SHANGHAI REPORT OF HONOURS CONFERRED.

In the list of Inland Honours which appears in the columns reserved for Reuters' Exclusive Service in the *North China Daily News*, of the 29th ult., appear the names of Mr. J. R. Michael, of Hongkong, who, according to the telegram, has been made a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, and Mr. W. J. Michael, of Hongkong, who, according to the telegram, has been made a Knight of the Order of St. Michael and St. George. Mr. Michael, of Hongkong, has no knowledge of his preferment, and none of the other newspapers either here, in the Straits or in Shanghai which publish the list of decorations conferred on Far Eastern residents makes mention of Mr. Michael's name. Still the information in the *North China Daily News* is clear and distinct. Between the names of Mr. Alexander Home, the British Commercial Attaché in China, and Mr. H. H. H. Chan, Director of Public Works, Hongkong, comes that of Mr. J. R. Michael, Hongkong, as a recipient of the C.M.G. If a mistake has

THE ALTERED ASSIGNMENT CASE.

AN APPEAL CASE.

Before the Full Bench, consisting of His Honour the Chief Justice and Mr. A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge, the appeal was heard against the judgment delivered by His Honour the Puisne Judge in the case of Chan Wo and others versus Chan Yam and others.

Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., and Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. C. D. Wilkinson, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, represented the several appellants, and Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. C. K. Hall Brutton, of Messrs. Brutton and Heit, represented the respondents.

Sir Henry led and said that this was an appeal against a judgment delivered in March last in which his Honour found, on a question before him as to whether a certain alteration in an assignment had been made before or after the execution of that document, that the balance of probability was that the alteration was made after execution.

The plaintiffs were partners in the Wah Hing Loong firm, of No. 99, Connaught Road West, California merchants, and the defendant was a trader, residing at No. 99 Viaduct Road. On 10th August, 1897, an action was commenced in the Original Court against the Wah Hing Loong, sued in the names of Chan Yam and Chan Wo, who were at that time partners in the Wah Hing Loong. The action arose in respect of a debt due from the Wah Tai to the Wah Hing Loong. On the 9th February, 1899, while that action was pending, Chan Yam and Chan Wo, from the Wah Hing Loong, and transferred their share therein with all his beneficial interest in the said debt, to the said defendant, Chan Wo, and the said defendant, Chan Wo, as partners of the said transfer, was signed by Chan Yam, Chan Wo, and all the other partners in the Wah Hing Loong. On the 27th October, 1903, the said action was compromised upon terms, *inter alia*, of the plaintiffs in that action paying \$12,000, which sum was lodged with Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton, as solicitor for the defendants in that action. On the 17th December, 1903, pursuant to an order of the Court, \$4,250, being the balance of the said \$12,000 then remaining in the hands of Mr. Brutton, was paid into Court, and Chan Yam was substituted as defendant for Mr. Brutton, and the plaintiffs claimed the payment to them of the sum of \$12,000 then in Court.

The defendants in this action said that on the 4th March, 1897, the Wah Hing Loong, obtained judgment in an action in this Court against one Mui Tsan, described as the sole partner in the Wah Tai Bank, for \$7,127.71, with interest and costs, and through the British Consul in Canton obtained certain property in Canton, to satisfy the said judgment. On 10th August, 1897, Mui Tsan brought action against Chan Yam and Chan Wo, as partners of the Wah Hing Loong, claiming an injunction and \$5,000 damages, for alleged false representation made to the British Consul at Canton by Chan Yam and Chan Wo. By an agreement made in February, 1899, the defendant and all the other partners in the Wah Hing Loong, other than the plaintiffs, sold and transferred their shares to the plaintiff, Chan Wo, under the name of Li Tong, and a memorandum was signed by the parties to the transaction, and from that time the property thus sold and transferred the judgment debt referred to, which was still unsatisfied, was expressly excepted. On the 22nd October, 1903, the action for damages referred to above was withdrawn and a sum of \$12,000 was paid by way of compromise by the said Mui Tsan to George Kingston Hall Brutton, as solicitor for the defendant in that action, and for the plaintiffs in the action of 1896, in full settlement of all claim against Mui Tsan by the Wah Hing Loong in the two actions. The defendant admitted that Chan Wo was entitled to be paid out of the sum in Court such sum, amounting to the sum of \$12,000, and he has himself paid for costs incurred in the said action for damages and to a share proportionate in his share in the Wah Hing Loong prior to his sale and transfer.

Continuing, Sir Henry said, that the decision they must attempt to arrive at was as to whether a certain alteration in the deed of transfer was made before or after the execution of that assignment. The facts that he would rely upon this point were as follows: Prior to 2nd March, 1899, all the partners were members of the Wah Hing Loong, and negotiations were entered into by them for the sale and transfer by some of them to others of them all in the firm. That assignment provided for the transfer of the "sign-board" which stood for the goodwill, and all the interest of the retiring partners in the business and debts of the firm.

Sir Henry: It is very bad English. We don't talk of transferring signboards when we mean goodwill. It is not English.

The Puisne Judge: No, but it's Chinese.

Sir Henry: Quite so, but in translating it should be put into comprehensible English. In translating from Chinese into English, one puts it "I am sick of the head." One puts it in English and says "I have a headache."

Continuing, Sir Henry said that the assignment also included the interests of the sellers in the firms up and down the coast and in California and Australia. The point then to consider was whether that assignment was inclusive of certain debts or not and consider the weight of evidence. The assignment was advertised in Chinese papers, and the advertisements specifically included all debts. The man had responsibility to sell, and he sold it without reservation, and then later he came forward and said he did make a reservation and reserved the Wah Tai Bank debt, and he asks us to believe that the word "exclusive" was altered to "inclusive" before the description of the debt, after the assignment had been executed.

The Court adjourned for tiffin.

After tiffin Mr. Pollock followed and addressed the Court on the likelihood of the forgery.

APPEAL DISMISSED WITH COSTS.

2nd inst.

Their Honours the Chief Justice and Mr. A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge, this morning sitting as a Full Bench in Appellate Jurisdiction delivered judgment in the case of Chan Wo and others versus Chan Yam which was reported in the column last evening.

After the appellants had concluded their argument the Chief Justice intimated that he did not wish to hear Mr. Slade (for respondents) and said:—Now this appeal was put to me in this way. The balance of probabilities did not incline as the learned Puisne Judge thought they did and the question put to us was:—Was it not likely that the debts were exclusive or inclusive? Unless the case can be put higher than this the appeal of doubt in the case just quoted, pointed this out to the learned counsel and afterwards the ground for appeal was put down to the fact that the debts could not have been excluded. I find it difficult to keep off the question of probabilities, because they figure so largely in argument. It seems to me that the probabilities are that the vendor wished to include

special debts he would have inserted paragraphs to that effect in the agreement, and if he meant to include there was no necessity for such paragraphs. He did insert the clause which shows very clearly what was in his mind. The accountants' evidence agrees with this. As to the form of agreement when drawn up it shows that Chan Yam certainly had it in his mind to exclude special debts. There is also the probability that if the purchaser had intended them to be excluded he would have asked:—Why did you introduce this sentence? I admit that he might have forcibly effected his end by altering "exclusive" to "inclusive" if defendant agreed, but this leads us to another probability. It is more than improbable, it seems to me, that the vendor would have thrown in what was called a "bad debt" for no consideration. We know that it was not strictly speaking a bad debt but only one very much in suspense. That there was no consideration for it is manifest from the plaintiffs' own evidence. His version of the case is that \$500 was to be paid for signboards, eighty-five per cent for the Australian debts and the other debts at face value. It is impossible to give a face value to these Wah Tai debts, therefore the plaintiff says he was going to get that for nothing which is highly improbable.

The plaintiffs' evidence supplies the key to what was passing in his mind. He wanted to know what the legal expense would be before he accepted and Chan Yam refused to tell me. He said that if they did not alter the draft of the agreement to "exclusive" to "inclusive" they would have to pay him expenses. For the life of me I cannot follow it. If the debt had been included the purchaser would have taken over the debt and the consequent liabilities. What he really wanted was to get rid in some way or other of his share of the liabilities. The probabilities on facts are entirely with defendant and in favour of exclusion. With regard to advertisements each party was at liberty to insert one and an inference has been drawn from the fact that the debt or debts or their exclusion was not mentioned. Nor may their exclusion have been their inclusion, too great an inference had been drawn from the advertisement.

After referring to other exhibits His Lordship concluded: I am entirely in agreement with the finding of the learned Puisne Judge.

Mr. Wise:—This is an appeal from a decision of my own (sitting in original jurisdiction). The question arose on the transfer of the business, etc., of the Wah Hing Loong firm by some of the partners to the other partners. In the original transfer of the memorandum of the original transfer certain debts due from the Wah Hing Loong by the Wah Tai and Fung Shing firms were excluded. This admitted that this draft was altered and in the document produced in Court and sued on those debts were included, so that the question before the Court was whether that alteration was made before or after execution. I was of opinion that it was made after and therefore of course fraudulent and a forgery, and I gave judgment accordingly for the defendants with costs. Whatever doubts I may have had or supposed to have had on that point at the time I am now satisfied. The best way will be for you to let me have affidavits. They will be treated quite confidentially and will not be published.

Mr. Pollock: Will your Lordship set a day for the renewal of the motion and in the meantime the affidavits will be filed?

The motion was then adjourned to the 16th inst.

THE MAN ON INSURANCE CO.

MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF BUSINESS.

In the Original Jurisdiction Court on the 2nd inst. before His Honour the Chief Justice, Hon. Mr. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. R. F. C. Master, of Messrs. Johnston, Stokes, and Master, brought on a motion in the matter of the Man On Insurance Company and in the matter of the Companies' Ordinance.

Mr. Pollock said this was an application on behalf of the Man On Insurance Company for confirmation by the Court of certain resolutions passed by the Company for the purpose of extending the operation of the said company's business. This was in accordance with the English practice. The company, said Mr. Pollock, set out in the petition that hitherto they had confined their business to marine insurance, and now wished to extend it to fire insurance.

His Honour: I have read through the papers, and I find there is not enough information to go upon.

Mr. Pollock: We followed the precedent in the Tientsin Company where they wished to extend their business to include electric lighting with their previous business of a gas company.

His Honour: But there is not sufficient data before me. I have to look after the policyholders; the shareholders can look after themselves.

Mr. Pollock: But fire and marine insurance are somewhat similar.

His Honour: You may remember the case of the Lyons Company in England which extended their business, with the result that the life policyholders could not get their money.

Mr. Pollock: But Marine and Life are quite different to Marine and Life or Fire and Life businesses, my Lord. Mr. Pollock here read from the Law Reports precedents for extension moved for, and said that the company had plenty of capital to carry on the extended business.

His Honour: Yes, but the capital is very small, only \$1,000,000, and only half of that paid up.

Mr. Pollock: Then there is the greater security as the company is in a flourishing condition.

His Honour: I find the responsibility is very, very great; for a layman to off a opinion upon a business matter of this sort is very difficult.

Mr. Pollock: But here we have the auditor who says that the capital is more than sufficient to meet all extended business.

His Honour: But I have to consider future policyholders.

Mr. Pollock: But surely, my Lord, everybody who wishes to take out a policy of insurance looks about him amongst all the companies, and finds out for himself which is the safest company to insure in.

His Honour: I must have some more data; I cannot treat the matter as a matter of formality. The best way will be for you to let me have affidavits. They will be treated quite confidentially and will not be published.

Mr. Pollock: Will your Lordship set a day for the renewal of the motion and in the meantime the affidavits will be filed?

The motion was then adjourned to the 16th inst.

TO EMULATE HONGKONG.

The report that the acting Collector of Customs is going to try and simplify several matters pertaining to the customs and to immigration and make entry into Manila easy, will be hailed as good news, says the Manila Times.

The past year or two there has been considerable improvement in the manner in which passengers coming into this port have been received and the impossibilities to which they were formerly subjected have in many cases been lightened. There are numerous cases where one, if he has a mind to, may call a sampan and make his way ashore at his own sweet will a few minutes after anchor has been dropped, the experience in Manila is frequently provoking and irritating. Of course, Hongkong is a free port and until Manila is in the same category we can never hope to equal it in this respect.

The proper policy, however, is that which apparently Colonel McCoy has adopted, of making our handicaps as light as possible and approaching free port methods as near as possible will permit. There are numerous and in some cases almost insurmountable obstacles in the way of making Manila desirable for entering passengers, but we believe that with the spirit shown by our acting Collector of Customs a great deal can be accomplished towards removing some of the needless causes of irritation which now confront landing passengers.

ANOTHER SHANGHAI HORROR.

Early yesterday morning, reports the Shanghai Times of 25th June, two human arms, much decomposed, were found in a drain near the Defence Creek, at the end of the Rue du Consulat, Frenchtown. The limbs evidently are those of a native, and it is supposed they belong to the dismembered body of the man found in a pig-skin trunk on the Pootung side of the river, on the 20th inst.

At the time this body was discovered, there was no person to connect with it the arm and hand found in the Soohow Creek last week as we reported at the time; but the medical examination of this latter gruesome find showed that the members belonged to a foreign woman, and so the mystery of the Soohow Creek discovery remains as deep and sinister as ever.

If the arms that came to light yesterday are those of the dismembered remains of the unfortunate native found in Pootung the theory that there could be any connection between the arms from the Soohow Creek and the body found in Pootung is completely upset, and it becomes the imperative duty of somebody to take some steps towards establishing the identity of the unhappy woman whose severed arm was cast up on the Creek foreshore. Why, we ask again, has the Creek not been dredged? A correspondent some days ago reported to us the fact that a head had also been seen in the Creek but neither the Police nor the Harbour authorities apparently made any effort to find it. They professed to disbelieve the story, but our correspondent was thoroughly trustworthy, and the Creek goes to substantiate his story. Why is it that nobody seems to consider it his duty to try to throw some light on those dreadful crimes which are taking place around us almost every night in the week, and of which such terrible evidences are being revealed morning after morning? If it is nobody's business to investigate these ghastly occurrences it is time the Ratepayers, Chinese and foreign, organised a committee to take in hand a plain and obvious duty which everybody in authority seems to be shirking.

THE FORMOSAN ABORIGINES.

A DIFFICULT TASK.

General Sakuma, Governor-General of Formosa, according to Japanese contemporaries, seeing that over ten years have passed since Formosa was annexed by Japan, and yet over half the total area of the island still remains unoccupied, deems this state of things a national disgrace to Japan. Ever since his assumption of office in Formosa, the Governor-General has been much concerned on this matter, and during his recent visit to Tokyo, he waited on His Majesty, and spoke of the matter to the Throne. Now that General Sakuma has returned to Formosa, it is generally believed that operations for the subjugation of the aborigines will shortly show marked progress.

SANITARY BOARD.

SPECIAL MEETING.

A special meeting of the Sanitary Board was held at noon today in the Board room to consider the following minute from the Medical Officer of Health: The minute read as follows: I have the honour to recommend that a special meeting of the Board be called for Tuesday next to release the sheds at the Dairy Farm Company's premises which were declared infected last month. The firm is now entirely free of infection, and the disinfection of the sheds was commenced yesterday and will be completed a Monday. The company are not able to utilize any of the milk of the animals that have recovered until the Board releases the premises, and the matter can therefore hardly be allowed to stand over until the regular meeting of the 8th prox. (inst.).

The President having read out the minute moved that the premises be released as suggested.

Mr. Shelton Hooper seconded and it was carried *unanimously*.

The meeting then terminated.

THE MUJIN ON THE

"ASHIABOLA."

We take the following report from the China Critic (Tientsin) of 22nd ult.:—This case was heard before the City Magistrate in his court yesterday afternoon. The British Consulate was represented by Mr. Handley-Derry. There were present in the court Capt. Harwood, the Chief Engineer, and Dr. Goldman, the Manager of the Standard Oil Co. in Tientsin, and Capt. Burrows.

Capt. Harwood was first examined. He stated that the steamer came from San Francisco, arriving at Taku on the 25th ult., 16 days ago. The cargo was taken on at Shanghai for 8 months going backward and forward between America and China. They had all signed an agreement. There were 66 men altogether in the crew and out of these 29 had mutilated, the mutilations were all firemen and timbers. He had no trouble with the other men. The firemen received wages from \$18 per month downward and the other members of the crew from \$28 downward. The trouble started by the firemen demanding \$2,600 but only \$2,400 was due to them. To avoid trouble he was willing to pay them the \$2,600 by an order on the Company's office in Shanghai, the money to be given to their families; he was willing to pay them when seven days out from port. He was not obliged to pay them anything until their contract expired at the end of the year, but he always paid them advances which he was at liberty to do at his own discretion. The amount of \$2,400 is due to them for about 4 months. I have paid them for about 3 months. Each man draws a little money when he wants it. Each man signs an advance on his monthly wages to pay them in the Consular office. Each agreement has a circular mark on it showing that it has been explained to them and that they affix their mark with a knowledge of its contents. The 29 prisoners and to others came from Shanghai, the 10 others were willing to take their money when 7 days out from port.

They said they wanted to send their money to their relatives. If I had paid them half they would have deserted, they had made up their minds to desert. Their wages are not legally due to them until the end of their contract. If they wanted clothes or other things I told them they could get them and I would endorse the bills on my office on shore would pay them. No. 1 fireman and six others came to Tientsin on Friday and saw the British Consul, they were told that they must go back to their ship and complete their contracts. No. 1 fireman and the two men who were wounded by revolver shots were the ringleaders. One of the men hit the second officer with an iron bar on the shoulder and down the leg. He can move about but cannot work. Capt. Burrows saw me start to write the cheque on Shanghai for the wages. When the dispute about the wages took place there was a ship chandler's man on board who spoke English and the men were shot and extracted the bullets. The No. 1 fireman, who was the ringleader had already received \$14 of his wages and only \$9 was due to him to date. On Friday last they were asked to get the fires going by the 2nd engineer, shortly after they all struck work, the 2nd engineer tried to keep one man in the stoke hole to look after things. Six of them were ashore. They then attacked the 2nd engineer. The first engineer came and quieted them and told them to wait until the Captain came aboard.

After the men came aboard they attacked the 2nd officer with iron bars which they had ready for use. If I had refused to pay them any wages until the end of the year I should have been quite within my rights.

The Magistrate asked numerous questions as to why the men had not been paid up to date, or why they were not paid every month, or why an advance had not been given to them at Taku. The answers to which were repetitions of the Captain's statements as above. The question of mutiny was not touched on.

The Magistrate then decided that the mutineers should be paid their monthly wages, that the two wounded men should be kept until it was seen how they progressed, and that the matter should be further decided when the *Ashiabola* returned to Tientsin.

Mr. Handley-Derry, on behalf of the British Consulate, stated that he was unable to accept this judgment.

The examination of the prisoners by the Magistrate and their replies were not translated into English.

TRAIN STOPPED BY WORMS.

The *Daily Koya Okrasma* (translated in the Japan Advertiser) reports that No. 3 post train, before reaching Pogranchaya station recently, began to proceed more and more slowly until suddenly it stopped entirely. The passengers jumped from the coaches and beheld a strange scene. The two locomotives were puffing and hissing, the wheels turned, but the train did not stir from the spot. On examination it was seen that the rails were covered with a small kind of green moving mass, which turned out to be worms, apparently a species of woodworms. They thickly covered the entire road and thus the locomotives were stopped. The poor passengers had to walk for a distance of five vents, which the train covered at a snail's pace, the journey taking three hours, while passengers and railway servants helped to clear the rail of the worms. It would be interesting to know, says our contemporary, how such a "huge" migration of worms can be explained, and if a similar phenomenon has been observed at any other time in Manchuria. The older residents might be able to answer this question.

It may be added that in America, rats have been told up in much the same fashion by millions of caterpillars.

INTRIGUES AND COUNTER-

INTRIGUES.

CHU HUNG-CHI'S DOWNFALL.

The enforced retirement the other day of such a high official—one of the highest it may be said in Peking—as His Excellency Chu Hung-chi, who held at the time of his denunciation by Yau Yu-tung, the Hanlin academic, the important post of Grand Councillor, Assistant Grand Secretary and President of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, came as a "thunder bolt from the blue" to the great majority of officials and people throughout the Empire. But those who were au fait with the intrigues and counter-intrigues, who understood the wheels within wheels of the politics of the Capital, expected some such denouement for Chu Hung-chi, who headed the erstwhile powerful Hunanese clique in Peking. Chu Hung-chi, powerful as he was, desired more power; he sought to regain for his party or clique its former influence throughout the Empire, and especially in the Capital, and for this reason he seems to have himself in opposition to Prince Ching—the "power behind the Throne" since the demise of the Grand Secretary Jung Lu three or four years ago—and had been for some time persistently intriguing to discredit Prince Ching with the Empress-Dowager and to supplant his Highness. As the result has shown, it is Chu Hung-chi who has been discredited in the eyes of their Imperial Majesties, and placed in enforced retirement—commanded, in a word, to return to his home outside the city of Chang-sha, there to nominate and report at the pleasure of the Throne. To outsiders Prince Ching and Chu Hung-chi seemed to be the best of friends. They were both Grand Councillors and daily met in the presence of their Majesties and, openly, worked most harmoniously wherever matters merely referred to generalities; but in secret there seems to have been hard work on the part of Chu Hung-chi, at any rate, in attempts to get Prince Ching out of the Grand Council and, therefore, out of politics entirely. For this reason Chu Hung-chi, in his capacity of Grand Councillor, recommended that the Imperial sanction be given to Yuen Tseng Chiao, Tsien's memorial to be pardoned and report at the Throne. To outsiders Prince Ching and Chu Hung-chi seemed to be the best of friends. They were both Grand Councillors and daily met in the presence of their Majesties and, openly, worked most harmoniously wherever matters merely referred to generalities; but in secret there seems to have been hard work on the part of Chu Hung-chi, at any rate, in attempts to get Prince Ching out of the Grand Council and, therefore, out of politics entirely. 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THE DESERTING DOCTOR.

PAYS \$1,000 DAMAGES.

In the Summary Court last Thursday, before His Honour Mr. A. G. Wise, P. M. Judge, presiding, the final hearing in the case of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company against Lancetot Wyndham, M.D., for the recovery of \$1,000 damages sustained by the plaintiff by reason of a breach by the defendant of a contract to serve the company for two years, of which he only served two months, was reached.

Mr. C. F. Dixon, of Messrs. Hastings and Halliday, appeared for the plaintiff company, Mr. O. D. Dixon representing the defendant.

Mr. Dixon said the evidence of the defendant was taken *de bene esse* on Saturday last, and he understood that his friend admitted \$1,000 damages.

Mr. Thomson: Oh, no. We admit damages to the extent of \$1,000 if any breach of the contract was committed—a very different thing. I wish to call Mr. Sutherland to speak as to whether any report was at any time made to the company against the defendant's sobriety.

His Honour: First I've heard of that point, as it has not been raised so far.

Mr. Thomson: No, my Lord, but an impression has got abroad in the Colony that the defendant was given to—well, to exceeding himself, and I want to kill that impression.

Mr. Sutherland was called and stated that damages had been sustained by reason of the defendant's breach of the agreement as in consequence of the defendant's refusal to go on the *Hop Sang* to Saigon and Singapore.

They lost a large number of passengers, as they were bound to have a doctor on board, and they carried Chinese passengers and they could not get a doctor, and thus the difference between the two voyages was \$3,000 odd.

They had been compelled to get out another doctor and he was expected on Sunday next. They usually paid their first class passages, which came to about \$60.

Cross-examined by Mr. Thomson: No report was ever made against the sobriety of the defendant.

Mr. Thomson then submitted that the defendant was perfectly justified in terminating the agreement. The terms of that agreement were that the doctor should serve two years, but it also contained the proviso that should the doctor at any time, by insubordination, ill health, wilful disobedience, etc., be incapacitated from carrying out his duties the agreement should terminate. Now that agreement was terminated by the doctor doing certain things as he was entitled to do.

His Honour: Yes, get drunk and disloyal, the orders of his employers.

Mr. Thomson: There has never been any suggestion of drunkenness against him, my Lord.

His Honour: Oh, quite so; but now, tell me what good was the taking of his *de bene esse* evidence?

Mr. Thomson: It showed that the defendant was morally justified.

His Honour: Morally! Immorally I should call it.

Mr. Thomson: They held out inducements to the defendant to come out; they promised to put him on the *Calcutta* run, but had not done so, and they told him there were always extra fees for embarking Chinese corpses.

His Honour: Quite so, but the extra and special work, but do you suppose that the company is going to kill the Chinese passengers for the doctor to embark?

Mr. Thomson: Then again, nothing was said about his living on shore while the ship was laid up, and living on shore is more expensive than living on board where all is found. But the company disputed his account.

His Honour: He cannot claim for drinks.

Mr. Thomson: No, my Lord, but he was put to a lot of extra expenses for carrying his baggage about, and one box went astray, and though he was to Mr. Gresson about it he never received any reply.

His Honour: Well, that's as may be, but I don't see what the missing trunk has to do with his plea of justification. He could not expect to make a profit out of his own misdeeds.

Mr. Thomson: But he is not profiting by it.

His Honour: He is drawing higher pay.

Mr. Thomson: But he has no agreement with the company, and is liable to be dismissed at a moment's notice, at Penang, Singapore, Saigon or elsewhere and have to find his own way home. He is therefore not profiting, as he loses his passage-money.

His Honour: So he ought to let him stay here. After a lot of trouble and delay we got hold of him for his *de bene esse* examination, but I cannot see what good it did.

Mr. Thomson: Besides, he was not paid as well as doctors in other companies.

His Honour: Oh, come, Mr. Thomson; we have here his own admission that he was quite satisfied with the agreement, and the terms were better than he could expect at home.

Mr. Thomson: Yes, he was satisfied with the agreement when at home, but when he came out here he found the conditions prevailed altogether different to what he had led to expect. The agreement was drawn by the plaintiffs, and the defendant was practically forced to sign it. They cannot draw up an agreement and then afterwards say what they meant to express was something different—they must be bound by it.

His Honour: It's a very one-sided agreement.

Mr. Thomson: Yes, that may be, but they drew it up, and they entered into it with their eyes open, and were bound by its terms and conditions. I submit that the defendant has not committed any breach of agreement and would ask that the case be dismissed with costs.

Mr. Dixon said that the construction his friend sought to put upon the agreement was not a good one. The intention was that the defendant should serve two years, but his friend wanted to say that the defendant had only to get drunk to terminate the agreement.

Mr. Thomson: Oh, no; I protest against that. Nothing was ever alleged or suggested about drunkenness.

His Honour: No, no, drunkenness does not enter into the matter at all.

Mr. Dixon submitted that after all the evidence he must ask his Honour to find that a breach of the agreement had been committed, and damages sustained by reason of such breach by the plaintiff company.

As regards the lost trunk no report of its loss had been received in the office, and he asked for judgment for plaintiffs.

His Honour said in this case the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company sued a doctor for breach of an agreement to serve them for two years, but to say his two ends he breaks that agreement; and causes the company to suffer actual loss and damage. He was satisfied that there was no justification, and there would be judgment for the plaintiffs for \$1,000 damages and costs.

On the afternoon of the 29th ult., on the Police recreation ground, a bowling match between the Civil Service and the Police was rolled off. The Police team comprised Sergeant Pitt, Grant, Sim and Inspector Cameron (skip). After an interesting game the Police ran out victorious by 25 points to the Civil Service 12. The return match will probably be played on the 13th inst.

HOUSE PURCHASE IN HUNGHOM.

A CURIOUS CLAIM.

A curiously-mixed-up case was heard before His Honour Mr. A. G. Wise, P. M. Judge, in the Summary Jurisdiction Court, on the 4th inst., when Lin Wong, attorney, of No. 51, Matauchung, Hunghom, and Ip Fuk, of No. 49, Matauchung, fought for payment of \$30 each to the other. Mr. H. K. Holmes appeared for Lin Wong, the plaintiff in the first, and defendant in the second action, Ip Fuk being present in person and unrepresented.

Mr. Holmes said that in the first action the claim was for \$30 alleged to be balance of purchase due from Ip Fuk to Lin Wong for the purchase of a house situated on Island Lot No. 36, and in the second action Ip Fuk claimed \$30 alleged to have been paid by him on behalf of Lin Wong. There was a piece of ground at Matauchung belonging to Lin Wong and this was sold by him to Ip Fuk for \$200, subject to two small mortgages for \$50 and \$30 respectively, the mortgages being one to Ip Fuk. On those advances being made by Ip Fuk, Lin Wong permitted him to live in the house, rent free, while at the same time he paid the interest on the loan. Ip Fuk paid the purchase money, by instalments of \$100, \$50, \$25 and \$25. It was arranged that Ip Fuk should hand over \$50 of the purchase money to Lin Lek Li, the son of Lin Wong, who was to pay it to Ip Fuk in discharge of the debt. This arrangement was carried out and Lin Wong was now suing for payment of that amount.

Lin Wong was called and stated that the \$50 paid to Ip Fuk was part of the \$100 instalment. He was only actually paid \$50 by Ip Fuk.

Lin Lek Li, the son of the above, stated that the \$50 was handed to him on the 2nd November last, and in the presence of Ip Fuk, who handed it over, he paid it to Ip Fuk. There were no title deeds, but memoranda of the mortgages were given to Ip Fuk, and when the \$50 was paid Ip Fuk took possession of them.

His Honour re-called Lin Wong and asked him when Ip Wong paid him the \$100 instalment, and was told the 3rd December.

His Honour: And you said that Ip Fuk \$50 newly two months previously, out of money received from Ip Fuk?

Lin Wong: Yes, but that was part of the purchase money.

His Honour: Of course, it was. Ip Fuk by mutual arrangement handed your \$50 to pay to Ip Fuk, to release the property, and then Ip paid you \$100, \$50 and \$25, so that he does not owe you anything. But what I don't understand is why, as Ip admits he purchased the property for \$200, and by agreement paid \$50 to Lin for Ip Fuk, why he now sues for that sum as money advanced on behalf of Ip Fuk.

Mr. Holmes: I thought it best to do that as a set off, my Lord, because the \$50 in dispute is the same \$50 in both actions.

His Honour: Well, what sort of judgment do you want? Of course, you will not want costs—except out-of-pocket costs in the second action.

Mr. Holmes: Oh, no; I am not going to ask for costs in that action. I would ask for the return of the two memoranda of mortgage returned by Ip Fuk, as there were no title deeds to the property, which was so small that no Crown lease was issued, and these memoranda were the only existing title deeds.

His Honour: Oh, yes, they can be returned to Ip Fuk. There will be judgment for the defendant in the first suit with costs, and for the plaintiff in the second suit with out-of-pocket costs only.

PEKING APPOINTMENTS.

A Peking despatch of 20th June says:—H. E. Chao Eih-sen, Viceroy designate of Szechuan, arrived at Tientsin from Mukden this afternoon by train and will come up here for Imperial audience to-morrow.

H. E. Chao will proceed to Chingtu to take up his new duties, starting with the Peking-Hankow trunk line; thus the Viceroy may be expected at his destination in July next. Prince Su took over his new duties as President of the Minch'engpu (Ministry of the Interior) from Na Tung yesterday. As this Prince is considered the most enlightened and progressive of the Manchu nobles, as is Viceroy Tuan Fang among the high Manchu officials in China at the present time, it is believed that he will do something for his country and people so far as internal administration is concerned.

Manchu Lt.-General, Ying Chang (formerly Chinese Minister in Berlin) Provincial Commander-in-Chief of Kiangpoh, North Kiangsu, has been instructed by the Throne to come up here to take his appointment as Junior Vice-President of the Luchungpu (Ministry of War) and Lt.-General Wang Shih-tseng, who has been acting for General Ying since last year, has been appointed his successor at Chienkiangpu, while Lt.-General Wang Ying-chieh has been appointed Acting Junior Vice-President of this Ministry until the arrival of General Ying from the south.

As General Ying was educated in the German military college at Vienna in his youth and speaks German fluently, there is nothing surprising in the fact that he is a strong believer in modern German arms. It is surmised that he will try to introduce the German system of training into the Chinese Luchung instead of the Japanese methods. While in Kiangpoh, General Ying drilled all his troops after German methods and proved very successful. But it is reported in Chinese official circles here that Viceroy Tuan Fang has telegraphed to the Government requesting the temporary retention of General Ying in Kiangpoh in the existing terrible situation.

At General Tieh Liang is completely ignorant of modern military affairs, he is naturally wishing General Ying to come up North to attend to his duties without further delay. The Senior Vice-President, Shou Hsun, also not acquainted with modern military methods. Prince Ching is nominally the Controller-General of the War Ministry. Thus the Luchungpu is to be controlled by four Manchu officials unless General Ying be retained for further services in Northern Kiangsu Province as desired by Viceroy Tuan.

The reduced official Chih Hung-chih, will leave here for his native place in Chienkiang in the course of a few days. The cause for Chih's downfall, as is known, is that he was the real agitator of the recent Chinese official scandal in the Capital, in which Princes Ching and Tsei Chieh were implicated as receivers of bribes from the ex-Governor, Tuan Chih-kuei of Heilungkiang, North Manchuria, and that his intrigue has now been exposed by the Hadlin Reader, Hun Yü-tung. The other serious charge brought against Chih by Mr. Hun is that he has been in private communication with a certain native newspaper in Peking about State affairs.

The High Commissioners, Grand Secretary of State, Sun Chih-lai and the Manchu General, Tieh Liang, are making active inquiries about this important point by Imperial instruction. Mr. Hun will probably receive a similar punishment to that meted out to the late. Senior Chao if the charges prove to be correct.

CARRYING DEADLY WEAPONS.

MRS. AMY OILLAN BEFORE THE MAGISTRATE.

After many adjournments the trial of Mrs. Amy Gillan, who was arrested some weeks ago at her residence, No. 3, Duddell Street, by Detective Sergeant O'Sullivan, on a charge of carrying a revolver and several rounds of ammunition without a permit and disorderly behaviour, was started at the Police Court, last Wednesday.

Inspector Hanson, who conducted the case for the police, asked his Worship to take the revolver case first.

His Worship:—The admit the charge. Defendant:—The revolver is not mine; it belongs to my husband.

His Worship:—Can you prove it is hers?

Inspector Hanson:—It was found in her possession.

Chan Kwai, a "boy," who was formerly in defendant's employ when she resided at the Carlton House, said that on the morning of 18th January last he went to her room in response to a call. When he entered the room accused sprang out of bed, grabbed a revolver, pointed it at the witness, and said "I give you, kill!"

Witness:—She said "I kill you."

Defendant:—Why did I do that?

His Worship:—He says that you pointed a revolver at him because he was late.

A lady, residing at the Carlton House, said she received a letter on the 16th May, which she believed to be in the handwriting of the defendant. There was no signature attached to it.

The letter, a most vicious one, was handed to the accused, who denied authorship.

Another lady, also residing at the Carlton House, said she, too, received an anonymous letter on the 16th June. She could not recognise the handwriting.

His Worship examined the two letters and came to the conclusion that both, judging from the envelopes and the letter "M," were written by the same person.

Detective Sergeant O'Sullivan said that on the 8th ultimo, at about 2 p.m., in consequence of a telephone message received at the Central Police Station, he visited the Carlton House and a lady handed him a letter. "A warrant he obtained later and went to No. 3, Duddell Street, top floor, where he found accused. Witness told the woman that he came to search for arms. Defendant denied that she had any arms.

Witness told her he knew she had, whereupon defendant went to a wardrobe and took out a revolver which was loaded in five chambers. After further wrangling she produced the ammunition. In his search witness found a slip of paper which, in quality, was the same as those letters received by the two previous witnesses. Her arrest followed.

Inspector Hanson said that he had more witnesses, who had received similar letters, to call. One of these, he said, was a well-known restaurant keeper. He received a letter, alleged to have been written by the accused, warning him not to allow a certain lady in his premises. His Worship refused to hear further witnesses.

The defendant was then called to the stand. She denied the story about threatening her "boy," denied writing the letters.

His Worship ordered the revolver and ammunition to be confiscated, and on the second charge bound the accused over in the sum of \$100 to be of good behaviour for one year.

THE FRANCO-JAPANESE AGREEMENT.

The publication of the text of the Franco-Japanese Agreement has naturally created a stir in the Chinese world, but the effect produced, if the press reports are to be believed, is quite the reverse of that on Foreigners as expressed by the tone of the British press. Our newspaper says nothing in the Agreement to congratulate China with and can not say with any show ofunction that the integrity of our country is more strongly assured by the consummation of the entente or that the peace of the Far East is rendered more secure.

Nearly all the papers realize the importance of the Agreement in its effect on China, though that such an Agreement could be effected at all came somewhat as a surprise to them. The traditional and innate contempt of the white race for the yellow race would seem to be an insuperable obstacle to bring about any understanding, and yet the world is treated to the spectacle of firstly an Anglo-Japanese Alliance and now Franco-Japanese Agreement, an agreement which further receives the moral support of Great Britain and Russia. By the conclusion of the Agreement two nations, if we exclude the contracting parties, are directly or indirectly affected by it, namely, Germany and China. The former is made to feel her isolated condition, while the interests of the latter are placed in greater jeopardy than before.

What strikes the Chinese press as somewhat meaningless is the eternal repetition on the part of certain Powers of their intention to respect the independence and integrity of China. As one of the papers declared, such a statement can only tickle the ears of our effete and blind Government, but has not a sufficient ring of sincerity in it to deceive the people. By the terms of the Agreement, the influence of France and Japan in the Chinese Empire is greatly strengthened. Whatever has been leased from the Chinese Government is now invested with almost the rights of occupation, and whatever has not been leased is under the shadow of their power in danger of being annexed within the same.

After the China-Japanese War the Japanese sphere of influence was confined to the province of Fukien, and now we are informed that on account of Japan's interests in the Liaoting Peninsula both Chihli and Shantung have been included. The sphere of influence of France is also greatly extended by the terms of this Agreement. At first it was only her vague ambition that the provinces of Yunnan, Kwangtung and Kwangsi should be her share in the despoiling of China, but in the past few years we have seen the gradual growth of her ambition, till now the provinces are to become in reality the reward of her many years of scheming. It is to be noted that the tactics of France and Japan in their undermining of China's integrity and independence has been almost identical. The former first detached Annam from China's suzerainty, then seized the region herself, and gradually encroached on the borders of Yunnan and the two Kwang till now she is stretching her arms even into the interior of those provinces; while Japan, Korea, her first object from which she directed her attention to Manchuria, and now Chihli and Shantung are to be enclosed within her grasp.

The Anglo-Japanese Agreement was claimed to be concluded to preserve the peace of the Far East, but the devastated condition of Manchuria bears eloquent witness to the validity or otherwise of the claim. Let us hope and pray that the Franco-Japanese Agreement, which starts out with language of a similar strain of eunuchism, may not end as disastrously to our Empire.

SWATOW HARBOUR PAULITY.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Swatow, and July. A sad accident occurred here on the evening of the 27th ult., as telegraphed to you, resulting in the death of Doctor Worley of the American Mission and 7 Chinese.

The cause of the accident was the overturning of a Chinese ferry boat while running across the harbour to Kailchow. It appears that the boat was overloaded, with the result that on an extra puff of wind coming along, she filled and sank. The *Hatchling* was leaving at the time, but on observing the accident she ceased up and promptly lowered one of her boats and picked up 3 Chinese, sampans also doing good service in that direction; but Dr. Worley and 7 Chinese were drowned, the doctor's body and 5 Chinese have been picked up to date.

The overcrowding of Chinese ferry boats crossing the harbour has been carried on for years and hardly a year passes but there is an accident, but the practice goes merely on and although the boatmen use the customs jelly, no one cares the slightest that they do. The business is absolutely a monopoly of a few Chinese in Kailchow and they absolutely refuse to run their boats unless they are loaded right down to the water's edge. Why the customs don't take the business in hand and make the boatman pay a licence fee heaven alone knows.

WHOLESALE DECAPITATION. Things in Un-Fing are quiet as far as rebellions are concerned, but the officials are perfectly busy lopping off heads and I believe they are nearly all Chinese converts. So I think there is some foundation after all for the rumour that a convert was leading the rebels.

A HONGKONG DESERTER. ARRESTED AT SHANGHAI. Charles David Dhaney, alias Thomas, watchman, M. Customs, was charged on the invitation of Mr. B. Twyman, H. B. M.'s Vice-Consul, with being a deserter from the 27th Company of the R. A. M. C. at Hongkong.

Prisoner, in reply to his Worship as to whether he was a deserter, said he got two months' working furlough from that corps.

His Worship:—What does that mean? Prisoner:—I applied for a hundred thousand from June 1st to the 31st July to get work and leave the service in Hongkong. I have now got work in the I. M. Customs.

His Worship:—Have you not communicated with the officer commanding your corps? Prisoner:—No, I don't know whether they will keep me on.

When did you arrive at Shanghai?—The 7th or 8th of this month by the *Roon*.

Have you got any papers certifying that you are absent on leave?—No, not here, they are in my box of clothes at Hongkong.

Is it written leave?—Yes, it is written, and signed by Capt. Collingwood of the R. M. C. A. D. The Great Emperor Wu Ti of the House of Han began his military career in the year 128 B.C., and before that he had already gained a decisive victory over the Hsiung-nu, probably the Turks of later annals. In order to turn their flank he conquered the northern part of Korea and formed alliances with the peoples living in what are now known as Li and the New Dominion. Soon after followed the annexation of Kokand, the Pamirs, and Khotan. The same conqueror also subdued the whole of the modern Chinese Empire lying south of the River Yangtze. Throughout the Han dynasty China was a well-organized, wide-spread, and vigorous, as the "History of Han" abundantly proves.

The Tang dynasty was much less warlike than the Han, but under that dynasty China re-conquered Korea, drove out the Tartars in the north, and united under the direct rules of the central government the States which then existed in the south. Her influence was recognised by Persia, India, Indo-China, and Japan, especially by Persia.

This very brief résumé is enough to show that there is in the Chinese military spirit and military prowess which only need cultivation instead of repression to make of China a mighty military nation. The close of China's military career came in 921. Civil war and foreign invasion followed; famine, fire, and sword brought misery and disaster, and the learned, for a time at least, had to leave the sword to the despised soldier. By the close of the tenth century there was not a gentleman left in China's semblance of an army. "No good man would be a soldier; no good iron would be a nail."

The reasons for this attitude are not far to seek. In the first place it was due to Confucianism. Confucius, seeing the horrors of war as waged in his own time by ruling princes against each other, preached again and again that "A wise king should always win his enemy over by his goodness rather than by his force," and that "Peace should be the sole aim of a well-governed nation." It must be remembered that though Confucius has been always admired and respected since the century preceding Christ he was by no means a sacred person, nor were his books sacred books until the beginning of the Sun Dynasty in the latter half of the tenth century. Although his writings were more or less influenced even the most ambitious emperors to discontinue their military careers, adverse criticism of his doctrines was expressed as late as the eighth century. The national anti-military sentiment advanced hand in hand with Confucianism until towards the end of the eleventh century, when a band of faithful Confucianists got an upper hand in the government and Confucianism became the national standard of morality.

Ever since that period it has been possible to write "Ichabod" over the gates of the military yamens, and to accentuate the departure the first Ming (1368) established the highly artificial system of literature which has since dominated state examinations, and confined the attention of candidates to the Five Classics and the Four Books. It is to be noted that for a long time Confucianism was the cult of the upper classes, but the adventurous spirit still existed in the lower orders.

A second factor in the growth of the anti-military spirit was the long peace which followed the early Tang period. The conquests of that period had left few enemies powerful enough to cause fear; long prosperity had induced idleness and slothful content. When the warlike tribes of the north grew strong enough to renew their attacks the nation woke with a start, to find itself caught in a trap. Thrice this happened. While the upper classes were talking of peace and righteousness, the lower classes were actually displaying the desire and capacity for active service, but they were invariably suppressed by the government. There was indeed little, if any, stimulus to aggressive war. The neighbours to the north and west were very poor, having neither wine, women nor booty to invite invasion.

A third powerful factor in the creation and fostering of the pacific spirit was the spread of Buddhism. This influence was, if possible, more powerful than that of Confucianism; for it spread to the lower orders. The bulk of the peasantry became Buddhist. The warrior class, where there is devotion and their influence has been almost omnipotent.

THE MIDDLE MAN. The *Poochow Echo* gives expression to the following opinions in its editorial column:—One of the weakest points in the position of the foreign man of business in China, is his utter and unavoidable dependence on native intermediaries for the carrying on of his transactions with the people of the country.

This helplessness is not, of course, by any means confined to the business man. We all, whatever our vocations may be, have to look to our native hangers-on for assistance in carrying on our daily life. And we do so, while fully conscious that we have to pay, directly or indirectly, for that assistance a good deal more than the stipulated wage. Take, for instance, merely the running of a household. Foreigners have, we believe, made the experiment of purchasing their own meat, vegetables, groceries, and the like, with a view to saving the extra expenditure supposed to be involved by utilising a middleman in the shape of the boy or the cook. But it is, after all, extremely doubtful whether the hypothetical saving can really be effected; and it is, at the same time, almost certain that the vexation and worry of direct dealings with Chinese petty tradesmen, are cheaply redeemed at the cost of the cook's brokerage or the boys "squeeze."

As a matter of common knowledge, a native will not sell to a foreigner an article whatever as low a rate as will be computed. It is quite useless to complain about the injustice of such favoritism; differential tariffs of the kind exist all over the Far East, and for that matter, all over Asia. Even foreigners are not all treated alike. The *tailan* is bled more freely than his clerk, the consul than his assistant. The most *noblesse oblige* is current in Cathay. Probably all classes of lay Europeans pay more for the necessities of life than any missionary. And all of us, from chiefs of princely houses downwards, find sooner or later, for our own comfort and advantage, whether in household matters or in more important affairs, we are absolutely compelled to rely on native go-betweens for the transaction of business. No familiarity with the language, no intimate acquaintance with the manners and customs of the people, makes the slightest difference. The Chinese are accustomed to the use of middlemen; it is part of their social system; and middlemen they will have. Luckily we have here to do with a people whose honesty in business transactions may be called proverbial. British traders, it is thoroughly during the Opium wars, twenty years ago and on many an occasion since, "squeeze" there is it is another social peculiarity of the Chinese. It is so much a necessity that it may be said to be taken as a matter of course, and is in a manner legitimised. No money, it is well understood, can pass through the hands of a comprador or shroff, of boy, cook, or coolie, without a percentage sticking on the way. But the percentage is practically uniform and has come to be classed tacitly as a recognised brokerage, and the amount can scarcely even be said to be other than reasonable.

CHINA'S MILITARY HISTORY.

The rise of a Chinese Army on modern lines, its equipment with arms of the newest type, and its phenomenal rapid growth are facts which daily thrust themselves on the notice of the foreigner, but are not rated at their true worth because of the generally accepted maxim that the Chinese are not fighters but a peace-loving nation who, whatever may seem, will never become soldiers in real earnest. A glance into the military history of China will show that deep down in the Chinese mind there is the fighting spirit, and that the causes of anti-militarism, which are not far to seek, being removed there is a capacity for fighting in a Chinese Army which it is well to respect and for which it is well to prepare.

In the time of feudalism, 770-221 B.C., the feudal lords and princes kept their own retainers, and were frequently fighting amongst themselves. Philosophy, literature, and the arts flourished, but every man had, during some part of the year, to practise the art of fighting and a long sword was the mark of a gentleman. Even Confucius ever wore his sword on his travels, though it is doubtful if he ever made any use of it. Internecine war became so constant, so absorbing, and so highly skilled that the feudal chiefs were compelled to seek experts to lead their armies to victory. The spirit of the times is shown in the following incident, taken from native historical sources:—

"One of the chiefs, wishing to attack his neighbour, offered the leadership of his forces to any adventurer who could prove his fitness for the task. One man appeared asserting that he could even lead the ladies-in-waiting. The chief bade him try. He asked two of the ladies, well-known favourites, to be his lieutenants. On hearing the words *quick march*, the ladies burst out laughing, and failed to obey orders. Their laughter however was turned to tears when the aspirant for leadership sternly ordered his men to arrest the Lieutenants for setting a bad example, and in spite of the protest of the chief they were punished on the spot. The chief, though shocked by this proceeding, nevertheless trusted his men to this commander and under him his forces defeated those of his neighbour."

In 221 B.C. Feudalism was abolished, and the Emperor Shih Huang sent his general Mou Tien to the northern frontier with an army estimated at 400,000 men, and during the time that he was there he founded the Great Wall. There existed a standing army, and some semblance of a national army has been kept ever since, in spite of the subsequent growth of the anti-military spirit. The soldiers were enlisted from the common people. In 214 B.C. the Great Wall was built and the Hsiung-nu being driven out of the country the Emperor Shih Huang for a moment reigned supreme. Civil war however soon followed and the first post-feudal dynasty came to an end in 207 B.C.

There are two glorious periods which a Chinese can never forget. The first is the beginning of the Han dynasty 206 B.C.-220 A.D.; and the other is the Tang period 618-907 A.D. The Great Emperor Wu Ti of the House of Han began his military career in the year 128 B.C., and before that he had already gained a decisive victory over the Hsiung-nu, probably the Turks of later annals. In order to turn their flank he conquered the northern part of Korea and formed alliances with the peoples living in what are now known as Li and the New Dominion. Soon after followed the annexation of Kokand, the Pamirs, and Khotan. The same conqueror also subdued the whole of the modern Chinese Empire lying south of the River Yangtze. Throughout the Han dynasty China was a well-organized, wide-spread, and vigorous, as the "History of Han" abundantly proves.

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The Hongkong Telegraph.

(ESTABLISHED 1861.)

NEW SERIES No. 5504

晚六十二月五年三十三緒光

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" 3 " 3% " "
TAKEO TAKAMICHI,
Manager.
Hongkong, 6th April, 1907. [17]

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JOHN ARMSTRONG,
Manager.
Hongkong, 15th May, 1907. [18]

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For 12 months 4 1/2 per cent. per annum.
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" 3 " 3 " " "
No. 9, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.
CHAS. R. SCOTT,
Manager.
Hongkong, 14th March, 1907. [18]

NEDERLANDSCHE HANDEL-MAATSCHAPPIJ.

(Netherlands Trading Society.)

ESTABLISHED 1824.

PAID-UP CAPITAL FL. 45,000,000 (£3,750,000).
RESERVE FUND FL. 5,000,000 (£417,000).

Head Office: AMSTERDAM.
Head Agency: BATAVIA.

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J. L. VAN HOUTEN,
Agent.
Hongkong, 8th June, 1907. [20]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$10,000,000
RESERVE FUND \$10,000,000
Sterling Reserve \$1,000,000
Silver Reserve \$11,000,000
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For 12 months—2 1/2 per cent. per annum.
For 6 months, 3 1/2 per cent. per annum.
For 3 months, 4 per cent. per annum.
J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 14th June, 1907. [21]

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE Business of the above Bank is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application.

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J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 12th January, 1907. [22]

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E. JUNG,
Manager.
Hongkong, 11th January, 1907. [24]

NEDERLANDSCH-INDISCHE HANDELS BANK.

(NETHERLANDS INDIA COMMERCIAL BANK.)

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Do. 6 do. 4% do. do.
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J. BOEIJER,
Manager.
Hongkong, 2nd July, 1907. [25]

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FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL ON	REMARKS
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For Further Particulars, apply to

E. A. HEWETT, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 4th July, 1907. [26]

Intimations.

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Hongkong, 17th June, 1907. [25]

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Hongkong, 6th July, 1907. [28]

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On SUNDAY, the 7th July.

THE Company's Steamship

"SUIAN"

will depart from DOUGLAS WHARF at 9 A.M.

Returning from MACAO at 5 P.M.

Luncheon and Refreshments supplied on board.

Saloon, Return Fare \$4.00

Single 2.00

Popular Excursion Rates as usual.

Children under 12 years Half Price.

NO CHITS will be accepted and passengers' passage must be paid for.

The Company also runs a steamer from Macao on Sunday morning at 7.30 A.M. and from Hongkong at 1 P.M. for the COH-LOO WHARF. This steamer connects with the returning steamer from Macao.

W. E. CLARKE,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 1st July, 1907. [29]

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and all its BRANCHES.

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Hongkong, 24th January, 1907. [30]



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Hongkong, 4th July, 1907. [32]

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BRUT (Cordon Rouge).

Sales in the United States exceed the total of all other Brands.

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[35]

Hotels.

HONGKONG HOTEL.

FIRST CLASS AND UP-TO-DATE.

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Hongkong, 21st June, 1907.

A. F. DAVIES,
Manager. [36]

KING EDWARD HOTEL.

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PRIVATE BAR and BILLIARD-ROOMS.

HOT and COLD WATER throughout.

ELECTRICALLY LIGHTED. ELECTRIC FANS.

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ELECTRIC PASSENGER ELEVATOR to each floor.

TABLE D'HOTE at separate tables.

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Hongkong, 11th December, 1906. [37]

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(CAPITAL PAID UP \$1,000,000.)

Undertakes and Executes

THE OFFICE OF

TRUSTEE, EXECUTOR OF WILLS,

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SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 12th May, 1907. [38]

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FOR A SHORT SEASON ONLY

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE

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A GRAND EXHIBITION OF

EXQUISITE ART TREASURES,

Comprising—

PAINTINGS, SCULPTURES, CARVINGS,

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ANCIENT ARMOUR and IMPLEMENTS

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WARES, Beautiful Articles of

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Adults 2/6

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7th May, 1907.

Hongkong, 15th June, 1907. [39]

Intimation.

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WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

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CLARET.

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CARNET	25.00	
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CARNET	30.00	
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OUR CLARETS, including the lowest priced, are of exceptional value, and guaranteed to be the genuine product of the juice of the grape.

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A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.
ALEXANDRIA BUILDINGS.
Hongkong, 11th June, 1907.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1907.

THE QUESTION OF SUBSIDIARY COINS.

It will be remembered that at a recent meeting of the Legislative Council the Hon. Mr. E. Osborne made a series of enquiries relative to the subsidiary coinage of Hongkong, to which the Colonial Secretary replied that "a notification to the public on the subject of subsidiary coin generally is being considered." Mr. Osborne also enquired whether the Government would inform the public that British subsidiary coins are legal tender up to \$2 in silver or \$1 in copper on each bill. To that the Colonial Treasurer replied that there was no objection to adding that fact to the notification. In the current issue of the *Government Gazette* the notification to which the Colonial Treasurer referred is published, and gives substantial effect to Mr. Osborne's request. The notification contains no more information than has been generally known by the better-informed people of Hongkong and, of course, by the entire body of merchants and traders in the Colony. The only fact which is apparent to those not dealing with the question of currency and exchange, as an everyday affair, is the fact that the coins minted at Canton or other places in China are only eight-ninths of the value of the standard coin of the Colony. The rest of the information which makes up the text of the notification is the fact that the legal tender of Hongkong subsidiary coins is one of \$2 nominal value in silver and \$1 in copper. That is a matter of common knowledge even, we may presume, among the schoolboys of the city. One important fact, however, to be added from the information imparted in the official communication is that all coins tendered to Government departments by the public in payment of monies due to the Government will not be put into circulation again. Such coins, we are informed, the Government intend to send to the melting-pot and so reduce the amount in circulation to one actually "required by the necessities of business in the Colony." If by the return of the two million odd dollars of subsidiary coins last year to Birmingham the Colony had incurred a loss of something like \$100,000 we dare to contemplate what will be the expense involved by the luxury of returning some \$400,000,000 of subsidiary coins, which is the amount estimated that has been put into circulation in the Colony. By a process of elementary arithmetic let us multiply by 200 and we arrive at the enormous total of \$20,000,000 which the Colony might be required to pay for the privilege of calling in the subsidiary coins, allowing, of course, a certain amount for what is considered as being required "by the necessities of business in the Colony." That amount is for all practical purposes, as

at present ascertainable, an indefinite figure, and he will be a bold statistician who will attempt to say, even approximately, what "the necessities of the Colony" are in such a matter. There is no authority who can venture upon a reliable opinion. How the difficulty of overcoming the influx of the provincial coins of China into the Colony by prohibiting them from getting into circulation can be met is the crux of the whole situation. We have heard the Government decry on every hand for its policy in connection with one of the most difficult financial problems of the hour as affecting the commercial prosperity of Hongkong. But we reiterate the view we once before expressed: that the Colonial authorities are far from being to blame for the present deadlock, which we have arrived at mainly by the supineness of the traders in accepting the alien coins and putting them into circulation in the course of their business in Hongkong and its vicinity. A few years ago when the problem presented none of the acute features which it does to-day the Government did the Chamber of Commerce the honour of approaching it for its advice on the matter, and in doing so we must give credit to the administration at the time for consulting a body which should certainly have been possessed of the best information and of the practical experience which might guide the Government in steering a clear course in the question of the standard currency in Hongkong for its trade requirements. Looking up past volumes of the Chamber's transactions we find that the information given the Government by that august body of merchants and traders was to the effect that Hongkong was powerless to restrict the importation of foreign coins into the Colony for fear of the retaliatory measures which the Government of Kwangtung might be advised to take and return to the Colony the many millions of its small coins which had found their way into favour amongst the Chinese in the interior of that province and beyond. Now the same difficulty presents itself to the Government of Hongkong in a far more aggravated form for the reason that since the time to which we allude millions of coins have been minted profitably to the provincial treasury of Canton, and sent out to Hongkong where they have found ready circulation and acceptance. That the Government finds itself impotent to decree the prohibition of the alien Chinese coin is evident from the fact that not even so much as a tentative effort is made or any suggestion offered in the notification on the subject under discussion. It has been often and often urged that, because the Straits Settlements, Siam and the Philippines had found it practicable to prohibit the influx of foreign coins into their territories, there was no reason why Hongkong should not promulgate a decree against the coins issued by the Viceroy of Canton and dumped into our great entrepot of trade in Hongkong. Of course, the advocates of prohibition cannot be aware of the difficulties of such a policy, as the hinterland trade of the places cited is controlled absolutely by their respective governments, whereas our own hinterland is China itself, which presents an insuperable difficulty in legislating in a matter of such vital importance to the trade interests of Hongkong and China itself. Moreover, the army of officers which would be required by the anomalous introduction of a preventive service in the free port of Hongkong so as to detect the importation of the prohibited currency would involve such an enormous expenditure that it would militate against any and whatever advantage that might accrue to the trade of the Colony by the enforcement of such a prohibition. That is, of course, assuming that such a prohibition could be made effective, but we argue that it could never be so; first, by reason of the fact that Hongkong is a free port; second, by reason also of the fact that many scores of junk enter all the ports of the island and the New Territories every twenty-four hours; and also by the difficulties which the maritime communications of the port and the mainland present in maintaining an effective excise service. No sane individual in the Colony will argue that the freedom of the port should be destroyed simply to keep out the coins of a foreign government, when it is in the power of the traders themselves, if they were to co-operate amongst themselves, to reject the foreign subsidiary tokens tendered in payment in the ordinary course of business. By the publication of the notification not one step is advanced towards the adoption of any remedial measures to overcome the currency difficulties of Hongkong. The Government is powerless. The situation has been created by the merchants and traders themselves, and by the moneychangers, whose business it is to turn a profitable dollar out of their exchange transactions. Let the commercial section of the community combine to resist the acceptance of the foreign coin and then we will find that the difficulty will automatically resolve itself in the currency of Canton being so depreciated that it will be accepted only at its intrinsic value. If its local market value should by any circumstance go

below the metal price of the taken then, coin as the provincial mints may agree to do, if it has no market for its production by the irrevocable law of supply and demand, the Government of Canton will find itself compelled in its own interest to desist from turning out a coin which is debased in the eyes of the commercial community of Hongkong.

PROSPEROUS SHANGHAI.

Hongkong and Shanghai are so indissolubly bound together in a community of interests which extends to every branch of business and social life that the affairs of the Northern Settlement are of perennial interest to the residents in this Colony. That interest is specially directed to the trade operations of Shanghai and there is not a meeting of merchants there which is not scanned and read with attention by the investing public of Hongkong. The report of the Commissioner of Customs, Mr. H. Elgar Hobson, on the trade of the port last year should, in these circumstances, find a wider public than those which are generally issued by the Statistical Department of the Imperial Maritime Customs and, as will be seen later, it merits that consideration on its own intrinsic value. The Commissioner begins in the best spirit of the well-satisfied official, for he remarks that "The most interesting characteristic of the condition of Shanghai generally during the year 1906 has been the ever-increasing expansion of the town in every direction." He states that new extensions are constantly being developed and that new schemes are daily maturing. Reference is made to the engineering and architectural works begun or completed, and proceeds to deal with the enormous expansion in the motor-car trade, to which we may have occasion in a future article to refer. In fact the entire section which goes under the sub-head of "local" is a testimony to the progress of Shanghai in the right direction. Educational facilities are improving; scientific studies are becoming popular, and the immense success attained by the local Dock Company during the last few years has naturally attracted competitors, who have recently so increased in numbers as to seriously threaten the hitherto unquestioned supremacy. With regard to the revenue of the Customs it will not be pleasant reading for the Britisher to learn that the duties paid by vessels flying the British flag have fallen off by over half a million taels, but that does not mean to say that the British mercantile marine is in any great danger of losing its leading position, for while the duty paid by the British flag amounted to over seven million taels the nearest competitors, the Germans, only paid a million and a half, the Japanese ranking third, with slightly over one million. "The total collection was over 12½ million taels, showing an increase of about three-quarters of a million taels above the collection of the preceding year, which was already the largest on record. The increase is mainly under export duties (over Hk. Tls. 300,000), but the increase of over Hk. Tls. 180,000 in tonnage dues is a testimony to the ever-growing size of steamers visiting the port. Under flag distribution, as compared with the figures for 1905, it is noticeable that the duties paid under the British flag show a decrease of over half a million taels, while the Japanese flag exhibits the interesting increase of over 1 million, having augmented 700 per cent., and immediately recovered, with interest, their trade lost during the war. The German flag has held its own, with a slight increase of about Hk. Tls. 200,000; while the Chinese flag remains almost stationary, with a slight improvement of Hk. Tls. 60,000. It will be observed that no less than 5,419 drawbacks (Hk. Tls. 146,707) were marked for cash payment during the year, as compared with 3,022 (Hk. Tls. 96,300) in 1905. The new facilities for rapidly obtaining issue of drawbacks, as introduced from the 1st December, 1903, having evidently proved of advantage to merchants, who now utilise them freely." Entering the domain of foreign trade, the Commissioner states that the gross value of arrivals aggregated over 227½ million taels, against 239½ million taels in 1905; but these figures cover the vast stocks of piece goods ordered at the close of the Russo-Japanese war, and sanguine buyers in many cases over-estimated the stocks that they would be able to dispose of. Consequently, the local reserves of piece goods increased enormously, as the offtake gradually resumed its normal course during the first half of the year, and during the latter half the falling off was nearly universal, reaching in some cases to over 33 per cent. Indian yarns, it is stated, lead in the market, but they do not command anything like the value of Japanese or certain local varieties. Russian oil has disappeared altogether from the Shanghai market; American case oil shows a decrease of some fifteen million gallons, while Sumatra oil has increased by over 60 per cent., which must be good reading for the shareholders of the joint British and Java Company, which controls the oil-fields in the South. The total tonnage of all the vessels visiting the port during the year aggregated 17,379,968 tons, or nearly three

millions more than during 1905. The mere number of vessels engaged, especially sailing vessels under the Japanese and native flags, is of little weight, since such are mainly launch-towed craft on the Boohow-Hangchow traffic. Among the foreign flags the British flag shows a decrease of about 100,000 tons, while the Japanese exhibits the remarkable increase of over 500 per cent., having gone up for steamer tonnage from 488,653 in 1905 to 1,860,007. The French flag also shows a notable increase of about double the preceding year's figures, viz., 773,249 steamer tonnage, against 433,500. This is chiefly due to the fact that there has been a new line of three magnificent river steamers bearing the French flag. It is worthy of note, says the Commissioner, that many of these local lines, the French, German and Japanese among others, are in receipt of subsidies from their respective Governments, which enable them to compete under very advantageous conditions with other lines less favourably situated. The large Danish steamers running to Vladivostok are practically Russian owned, and run in connexion with the Trans-Siberian Railway. The transfer of flag will probably be arranged before long, thereby entitling the company to claim a subsidy from the Russian Government as mail carriers. The opium imports amounted to 13,668 piculs as compared with 13,981 in 1906 and 10,285 in 1905, while the value increased from five or six million taels. From the Customs point of view Shanghai is flourishing, and it will be the wish of those in Hongkong, who are interested in the Northern Settlement, that its prosperity may be reflected in the balance-sheets of the numerous companies in which local investors are interested.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE German mail of the 5th June was delivered in London on the 5th inst.

THE following telegram has been received by the Colonial Secretary from the Consul-General at Newchwang:—"Quarantine imposed against Hongkong."

MR. D. W. Trautman has been appointed to act as Police Magistrate in the Islands of the New Territories during the absence on vacation leave of Mr. P. F. J. Woodhouse, or until further notice, with effect from the 2nd inst.

A CHINA MAN, who gave the name of Tong Yik, and who stated that he was a "boy" employed at the Hongkong Club, was arrested in Queen's Road Central, last night, for stealing a gold ear-pick from a woman. The woman, Liu So, residing at 17, Gough Street, carried the ear-pick in her hair. Accused was alleged to have gone up behind her, grabbed the pick, and tried to get away, but he was brought up by the crowd. He was arraigned before Mr. F. A. Hazelard, in the Police Court, this forenoon, on a charge of street snatching. The case was adjourned.

Two junkmen, owners of licensed junks Nos. 51059H and 5624H, came before Mr. F. A. Hazelard, in the Police Court, this morning, on a charge of cruelty to animals. Police Sergeant Blackman, of No. 7 Police Station, who prosecuted, said that on the second instant he went aboard the accused's junks, which were moored alongside the praya wall, at Kennedy Town and saw that there were sixty cows on each junk. Each cow was tied by the nose, the end of the rope being fastened to the bottom of the junk, causing the cattle needless suffering as they were unable to move. The junkmen pleaded ignorance. His Worship fined them \$25 each, which was paid.

RETURNS of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 30th June, 1907, as certified by the managers of the respective banks:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Limited, National Bank of China, Limited.	16,338,873	11,000,000
	215,799	100,000
Total.	\$19,552,783	\$11,100,000

WHEN a number of fitters, who reside at No. 14, Suider Street, Tai-kok-tsu, returned home from work last evening they found the place ransacked and property to the value of \$45.90 stolen. Most of the property that was carried away belonged to two men, who lost no time in communicating with Sergeant Sim, at Sam-shui-poi Police Station. Meanwhile it became known that the cook employed by the fitters had disappeared. He was traced to a house some distance away, where the stolen property was discovered. At the Police Court, to-day, the cook, Cheong Chat, pleaded guilty to a charge of theft and he was sentenced by Mr. Hazelard to six weeks' hard labour and six hours in the stocks.

THE 21st half-yearly report of the Japan Flour Milling Company for the period from December to May last, just published, shows the net profit for the period to be ¥120,166, including ¥37,791, surplus brought over from the previous period. Of this sum, ¥41,285 has been paid for a dividend at the rate of 23 per cent. per annum. ¥4,400 has been placed to the reserve. ¥10,000 to the reserve for the depreciation of machinery, plant and buildings. ¥2,300 for bonuses to officials, a surplus of ¥47,187 being carried forward. The authorized capital of the company is ¥1,000,000, of which ¥41,000 is paid up, with a reserve aggregating ¥85,400, while dividends have been issued to the amount of ¥70,000. Of the capital, ¥200,431 is lodged in the premises, machinery and plant

THE price of Dragon Flags has gone up 10 per cent. in Bangkok in view of the decorations in honour of the Chinese sea-war visit. There is also a great demand for pyrotechnics, of which a great display is expected to take place.—*Stam Free Press.*

WHILE on board the steamer *Fan Sang* yesterday afternoon inspecting emigrants, Detective Sergeant Grant being suspicious as to the genuineness of one of the coolies called for his passport ticket. The man had none. He was arrested. On the way to the Central Police Station he gave such information to the sergeant which led to the arrest of another man—Wan Ching, a boarding-house runner, residing at 160, Connaught Road Central—on a charge of attempting to ship a man to Singapore without a passport ticket. The emigrant, Tam Tin Kiu, was charged with being on board without permission. They were both arraigned before Mr. G. N. Orme, at the Police Court, to-day. The runner was fined \$75, and the coolie was discharged.

A pig dealer named Ma Kwai and a boarding-house runner, Si To Nam, of 9, Rennecker Street, were convicted at the Police Court, to-day, for being concerned in a kidnapping venture. Detective Sergeant Marison prosecuted. On the 23rd June last the two defendants kidnapped three boys—the eldest being twelve years of age—from Canton and brought them to Hongkong. After detaining them for a few days here the boys were put on board a vessel bound for Hoi Fun. On arrival at Sa Mun, midway to their destination, the matter became known and the Customs authorities arrested the kidnappers and shipped them back to Hongkong, at the same time notifying the police. Mr. Orme sentenced one of the accused to nine months' imprisonment, and the other to three months. The boys were returned to their parents.

ERUBANT APPLETON, of Yau-ma-tei Police Station, arraigned three Hunghom boiler-makers before Mr. F. A. Hazelard, this morning, at the Police Court, on a charge of stealing a silver watch and a "sit k" chain, valued at \$7, from Lau Cheung, a butcher, yesterday. According to the evidence of the complainant it would appear that last evening while on his way home on a bicycle he dropped his watch and chain in Garcoigne Road. One of the defendants picked them up and refused to return them to the butcher, unless something was given to him to buy tea. The butcher gave the man seventy cents, but that was refused. He wanted \$1.00. As the butcher did not look like paying that amount the boiler-maker and his two chums started off with the watch. A policeman brought him back, however. The Court sent the first accused to six weeks' hard labour; the second to three weeks, and the third was discharged.

A JAPANESE contemporary observes that when all the flour mills in Japan are in full working order, large quantities of cotton cloth bags will be required for packing flour and wheat. About 7,000 *kokus* of wheat will be required daily, and of this quantity 4,000 *kokus* can be supplied in Japan, the remaining 3,000 *kokus* being imported from abroad, or about 1,950,000 *kokus* a year, representing 10,000,000 in value. Already foreign merchants in Japan are consulting with the flour-mills for contracts for the supply of wheat. Two or three foreign firms are also offering to import cotton bags for flour. The managers of the flour mills, however, have ascertained that bags can be made with advantage of sheetings produced by Japanese weaving and spinning mills. There will be about 19 mills soon in operation, and the total daily output of flour will amount to 25,720 bags. When to this is added the output of the Maushu mill and the Toda mill at Hankow, the total will increase to 30,000 bags, and the total quantity of Japanese sheeting required for bags it is estimated will amount to 365,000 pieces, valued at ¥730,000. This will be a new and profitable market for Japanese sheetings.

AT a meeting of the Northwestern Millers' Association in Seattle last month flour prices, both for local sale and for export, were advanced 25 cents per barrel. This makes the basis on patents for the home trade, \$4.75, and on export, \$3.80. The advance on the export, however, is nominal, the agreement being that the rise be 15 cents per barrel except in the case of any individuals who might want to raise the quotations to the additional 10 cents. For the present, according to the millers, it will make little difference whether the advance is 15 or 25 cents, as no effort is now making to book any orders. All the Puget Sound mills have orders ahead to carry them up to July 1, at which time there may be a change in the wheat conditions, and in the nature of the competition offered in the Orient. The advance just made put American flour an average of about 50 to 75 cents a barrel higher than the Australian. The Liverpool wheat market is moving up, however, which will have its effect on the Australian flour market. The matter of traffic conditions, as they affect the moving of wheat and flour, came in for some discussion, but no action was taken towards compelling or even requesting the railroads to give a more prompt service, it being the opinion of those present that the railroads were treating the millers as well as they could.

SHIPPING AND MAILS.

French (*Tonkin*) 7th inst.
Indian (*Hapsang*) 8th inst.
American (*Doris*) 9th inst.
Indian (*Kamiat*) 13th inst.
Indian (*Kutani*) 18th inst.
The s.s. *Saint Patrick* left Keelung to-day, and is due here on 8th inst., about noon.
The N. Y. K. s.s. *Kanagawa Maru*, European Line, left Shanghai for this port on 5th inst., and is expected here on 8th inst.
The N. Y. K. s.s. *Yamato Maru*, Australian Line, left Nagasaki for this port on 5th inst., and is expected here on 9th inst., at 9 a.m.
The Imperial German Mail s.s. *Prinz Ludwig*, which left here on 2nd inst., at 9 a.m., arrived at Shanghai on 5th inst., at 7 p.m.

Telegram.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

"KING ALFRED'S" SCORE.

WORLD'S RECORD IN GUNNERY.

BULL'S-EYES FROM THE HEAVY GUNS.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 6th June.

11 a.m.

U.S.S. *King Alfred* has made a world's record in gunnery at Wei-hai-wei.

Three six-inch guns in one minute fired off 38 rounds and 37 hits were scored.

Of these, 20 were bull's-eyes. Two nine-inch guns fired off 19 rounds in two minutes and made 19 hits.

Fifteen were bull's-eyes.

KITE-FLYING FATALITY.

PORTUGUESE YOUTH FALLS SIXTY FEET.

A most unfortunate accident, which terminated fatally, occurred in Shelley Street yesterday afternoon, whereby a Portuguese school-boy—Antonio Gomes, seventeen years old—met his death. Antonio lived with his parents at No. 28, Elgin Street. At about 5.25 p.m. yesterday he and a few friends adjourned to the roof of No. 40, Elgin Street—the house of a school-mate—to fly their kites. When the kites were high up, Antonio climbed on the parapet to get a clearer view of another kite which he wanted "to cut." Unexpectedly the other kite took a downward swoop, and, fearing that entanglement would follow, Antonio pulled in with all his might. While so doing he is supposed to have lost his balance; he fell into Shelley Street—a distance of some sixty feet. He was picked up by some friends and hurried to the Government Civil Hospital, where on arrival Dr. Koch pronounced life extinct. His remains were then taken to the mortuary.

WAIVER POLO.

CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB VS. ROYAL ENGINEERS.

Yesterday afternoon the Corinthian Yacht Club played their first friendly match this season against the Royal Engineers, at the R.E. boat camp. The game ended in a win for the former by two goals to nil. The Engineers have improved a great deal, and they can now handle the ball much smarter. The Corinthian Yacht Club goalkeeper did not turn out, and an R.E. man had to defend their goal. The first goal was scored by Wittchell, and after some time Cooke scored the next. A goal was scored by Forbes, which was declared a foul. The following played for the C.Y.C.—Sapper Holmes, R. C. Wittchell, C. J. Cooke, J. Forbes, E. Humphreys, MacCrae and G. Wittchell.

YOKOHAMA CLAIM FOR CONTRACT MONEY.

In the Yokohama District Court, before Judge Myraoka, the hearing was resumed on the 22nd ult. of the action brought by Mr. B. C. Howard, Chairman of the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, Ltd., against Mr. Geo. Symes Thomson, representative of Messrs. Dowell & Co., Ltd., claiming the sum of ¥6,199.09, being a portion of contract money alleged to be due to the firm, together with interest thereon, computed at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum from October 25th, 1906, until the date of the execution of judgment, reports the *Japan Herald*, and Mr. Masujima for the defendant. Mr. E. R. Thompson, an expert of the Yokohama Dock Co. who was examined as a witness, deposed that the principal business of the defendant company was to act as agents for a campship. The function was to transport the business of the steamships arriving in the harbour. It was part of the business to contract on behalf of the owners or capitalists of the steamship for the work to be done to such steamships, in which case the defendant company was presumed to be acting as an agent for the owners or capitalists thereof. Even in cases where request was made through the telephone for certain work to be done to the steamships, the defendant company were presumed to be acting for the owners, etc., of the said steamship. He was giving this evidence from his past experience. He saw the error and also that work was done to her by the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works. Payment was usually made by the defendant company, but in default of such payment the demand had to be made on the owners or capitalists of the vessel. In the event of the steamship having left the harbour and payment not being made by the defendant company, the demand was of course made to the defendant company. This concluded the evidence. Mr. Masujima contended that the defendant was not acting as the legal representative of the owner of the steamship in this transaction, and it was therefore improper for the plaintiff to demand payment of the defendant. Mr. Ito, argued that the contract was signed by the defendant company, which was, therefore, responsible for payment. Judgment was reserved until the 27th inst.

Telegrams.

[Raiuli.]

The Income Tax.

London, 4th July.

During the discussion on the Income Tax, Mr. Asquith, in reply to Mr. Seymour King, said that an important concession would be made, agreeing to pensions, &c. for past services being classed as earned income, thus benefiting the lower rate. The concession also applies to widows and children's pensions.

Sir Harry Maclean Captured by Raiuli.

Sir Harry Maclean has been treacherously captured by Raiuli. Raiuli persuaded Sir Harry Maclean to meet him personally, accompanied by only four men.

The British Legation at Tangier is doing all that is possible to secure the release of Sir Harry Maclean, and the Sultan's representative at Tangier is heartily assisting.

The Legation has received a letter from Sir Harry Maclean stating that he is well, and is being well treated.

Sir Matthew Nathan.

Sir Matthew Nathan dined with the South African Society, a distinguished assemblage.

Sir Godfrey Lagden presided, and gave a tribute to Sir Matthew's brilliant career. He said: "We are all proud of Sir Matthew Nathan following in the footsteps of so eminent and distinguished a Governor as Sir Henry McCallum."

Later.

New Market—Result of the Princess of Wales' Sales.

- 1.—Polymelus.
- 2.—Nulli Secundus.
- 3.—Merry Moment.

There were nine starters.

The Opium Question.

The *Daily News* commenting on the memorial on the opium question signed by the Archbishops of Canterbury, York, Dublin and Armagh, and by 70 Bishops, says that Great Britain must be prepared to make a contribution to India, in order to alleviate the dislocation of finances which will be caused by the abolition of the opium traffic, in the same way as Great Britain bore the cost of abolishing slavery.

MOTOR CARS FOR CHINA.

A HINT TO THE ENTERPRISING.

Consul Wilbur T. Gracey, writing from Tsing-tao, states that there appears to be an excellent opportunity for the introduction of automobiles into the colony of Kichow. His report reads: "There are at present only one American and two German machines in this city, but there is no reason why automobiles could not be used here to a large extent. The roads throughout the colony are excellent, being made through solid rock in many places and all well macadamized. They run for a distance of 30 or 40 miles into the surrounding country, and with the gradual slope of the hills, about 15 to 20 degrees, would be excellent for automobiles."

"I believe that a cheap grade of automobiles could be introduced here for general use. They must be made to compete with the carriages which are now in use. Pones can be purchased here for about \$10 to \$50 each, are used in pairs, and can be kept at about \$7 per month for feed and \$7 for a horse. Carriages are of open victoria, closed broughams or dog carts and cost, respectively, about \$350, \$500 and \$1,000. Small automobiles which are good hill climbers might be introduced if they could be supplied at a low price. Gasoline can be purchased at about 10 cents per gallon, and arrangements could be made for a lower price if there was a call for larger quantities."

"The best way to introduce automobiles would be to ship a small number to some local firm to be sold on commission. It would be difficult to introduce machines here through catalogues. If the automobile manufacturers in the United States will forward copies of their catalogues to this consulate the office will retain one copy and pass the others to parties who may be interested. In quoting prices the machine should be given complete, with lamps and all necessary adjuncts. Some of the German firms quote their goods, not only complete in every detail, but including extra parts which are liable to wear quickly, such as tires, etc. It must be remembered that American machines must compete with low priced German goods. There are a good number of motor cycles in use in this city, and there would undoubtedly be a good sale for cheap machines of this kind. In both automobiles and motor cycles one of the most important points to be considered is that the purchaser is three months distant from the United States, and in the event of the breaking of any part of his machine it will be laid up for several months before he can secure new parts. Simplicity of construction is therefore important. Some local dealer should be well supplied with extra parts."

The new Straits dollar is a great source of confusion and fraud in Delhi. Many labourers refuse to be paid by it. The changers will take it only at a value of seventy cents. Matters will not mend until the Government notifies the people that the new and old Straits dollar, however written in size, are the same in value. The Government has hitherto failed to do anything of the kind.

SUBSIDIARY COINS.

THE VALUE OF CANTON TOKENS.

REDUCTION OF COLONY'S SUPPLY.

The following notification, dated 3rd inst., appears in the *Government Gazette* under the signature of the Colonial Secretary:

Whereas there is an excessive amount of Chinese coins at present in circulation within the Colony, and whereas residents may be deceived as to the value of these coins, it is hereby notified for public information that the proper market value of a nominal dollar's worth of so called subsidiary coins minted at Canton or other places in China is only about 80/100ths of the value of the standard coin of the Colony.

Thus ten of the Chinese ten-cent pieces are worth only about 80 cents of the Mexican dollar.

Residents are therefore warned against accepting these foreign coins at more than the value stated unless they have previously agreed to do so.

The legal limit of tender of Hongkong subsidiary coins is \$3 nominal value in silver and \$1 in copper.

The public is also informed that whereas at present the Hongkong subsidiary coinage is at a discount in the market all such coin received in accordance with law by Government Departments is being retained and not re-issued. It will from time to time be melted down and sold so as to reduce the amount, in circulation, of such coinage to that required by the necessities of business in the Colony.

Any person or company doing business in the Colony may, on application to the Colonial Secretary, or Registrar General for Chinese firms, be furnished with copies of this notice for posting up on their premises.

HONGKONG A WONDERFUL CITY.

CHINA AND HER PEOPLE.

C. C. Ramsay, member of the house of representatives from King county in the last legislature, was among those who made the round trip on the *Minnesota* which arrived from the Orient yesterday, says the *Seattle Post* of 8th June. In discussing his trip, Mr. Ramsay said:

"We saw the cherry blossom season at its height, and were fortunate in having delightful weather during our stay in Japan, which enabled us to see the beautiful temples, mountains, lakes, canals and her people in all phases—from the highest to the lowest walks of life."

"Everything in Japan is utilized, from the smallest sticks of timber to the largest trees; every possible foot of ground is cultivated. The whole country is like a continued park or garden, and the 45,000,000 people who inhabit these islands, less in size than some of our states, are the most polite and contented people on earth. Old Japan has almost given way to the new, and there is no trouble for the English speaking races to get around, as all the railway stations are marked in English. In fact, our language is taught in all the schools."

"To-day, Japan, in addition to building up and adding to her already powerful navy (and I understand she will soon launch the greatest battleship ever built by any nation) has now in course of construction about ten fine merchant marine vessels to add to her already extensive ocean carrying trade. Japan intends to lead in the commerce of the Pacific, and her ambitions are likely to be realized, since her own people and government do absolutely nothing to encourage the carriage of goods in their great industries, and it seemed to me that our own great America could learn much from this little giant of the East."

"We should discourage this eye-lashing abuse of our enterprising men. The demagogue and the agitator who are ever stingily trying to poison the public mind and to cause as much hostile legislation to be enacted as possible against everything requiring large capital should be completely ignored. We should encourage in every way our captains of industry, whether at home or abroad, and all pull together to further increase our own great prosperity at home and our prestige abroad, and especially in this true of our Pacific Coast states."

"China, with her 400,000,000 people, was a surprise, and right here let me say that every one who can possibly do so should read 'China and Her People,' by that great American patriot, Charles Denby, for thirteen years our minister to Peking. It gives a clear understanding of the many strange customs of the people, and throws much light on the causes leading up to out-breaks against the foreigner."

"Shanghai, Canton, Macao and Hongkong are wonderful cities. Canton with its narrow, six-foot streets lined with glittering mercantile signs and filled with its dense population was as novel as the great river front where thousands upon thousands live on the water. I am informed by reliable persons that our flour mills have all the orders they can fill for months to come and the boycott is about over."

"Japan placed orders recently for more than 120,000,000 yards of our goods. Commercially the United States has all the great nations against her. That being true, should we not do all in our power to cultivate closer trade relations with the Orient? We could not permit, and they do not expect, the labouring classes to come in and put down the price of labour so our own people could not compete, but they do expect us to treat with greater consideration their merchants, scholars, business men and gentlemen who come to our shores. In both China and Japan we were well treated, and if there is any feeling against Americans it was nowhere manifest in any of the cities and towns visited by us."

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

VICEROY SHUM.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 5th July. There are many conflicting reports concerning Viceroy Shum. One states that the C. M. S. N. Company's head office at Shanghai has twice wired to his Canton agent to at once despatch the *s.s. Kwangtung* to Shanghai to convey H.E. Shum to the South. But a telegram has just been received from Shanghai stating that, yesterday morning, H.E. Shum left for Hongchow for medical treatment. Another Shanghai telegram states that H.E. Shum will stay for another month at the Northern port to avoid the heat of the South.

KWANGSI RICE.

H.E. Viceroy Shum, upon receipt of a telegram from the Canton principal rice disposal office requesting him to instruct the Kwangsi Governor to remove the prohibition on exportation of rice, has given telegraphic instructions to the Kwangsi Governor to do so, and H.E. has sent a telegram to Canton to that effect.

CORRUPT SUBORDINATE OFFICIAL.

Yesterday the new Provincial Judge, Kuang Um-isan, sent one of his subordinates to the Namhoi Magistrate for punishment. The offender is said to have squandered an admission fee from a certain gentleman who was going to call on the Judge.

CLOSING OPIUM DENNS.

In accordance with the instructions from the Tartar General and the two Lieutenant Tartar Generals, all the opium dens in the Bannerman portion of the City were totally closed on the 2nd ultimo. The old opium establishments have all been turned into tea shops and other businesses. So far the Tartar General's orders have been very strictly enforced and obeyed.

THE LINGCHOW DISTURBANCE.

Yesterday a telegram was received from the official of Lingchow stating that the rebels there are still very active and requesting more reinforcement of troops.

PROVINCIAL JUDGESHIP.

At forenoon yesterday the newly appointed Provincial Judge, Kuang Sum-isan, took over temporary charge of office from the ex-Provincial Judge, Chu Show-yung, who will probably leave Canton for his new post at Anhui at the beginning of the sixth moon.

BANGKOK CHINESE AND THE NAVAL VISIT.

Bangkok Chinese are enthusiastic over the visit of the Chinese cruisers to Siamese waters, and this feeling of general exultation is all the more natural as it is the first time that the "Flowery Land" has been represented in the harbour of Bangkok by modern men-of-war.

The object of the visit, as far as we understand, has no political significance but simply a "look-see" which no doubt will prove mutually agreeable to all concerned.

The visitors will find Siam and her people not only interesting and progressive, but most hospitable. In Bangkok, the capital, they will find an industrious and prosperous up-to-date population in which the Chinese community figure most conspicuously as far as trade and commerce are concerned. That the Chinese have taken a very creditable share in the development of trade and industry of Siam is a fact already well known. Not only do they figure largely as merchants, but in the arts and crafts as well. As masons and carpenters they have taken a very large share in the work of building modern Bangkok. In the construction of our new streets, and Bangkok's most striking works of architecture Chinese bone and muscle have taken a very active part. In the cultivation of the soil they have been equally successful. In fact, it is the Chinese farmer that supplies Bangkok market with the principal commodities of food in the way of vegetables, fruits, fowls, eggs, fish, pork and other necessities. Their thrift, energy and perseverance know no bounds, and for this reason they generally succeed in every phase of life. Bangkok boasts of a very wealthy and influential community of commercial Chinese. Among these we have many philanthropists who have done much by their generosity and beneficence in maintaining charitable institutions of which we have many.

It is with some reason, therefore, the Chinese of Bangkok may indulge in a *galop* holiday on the occasion of this distinguished visit which is bound to prove one for mutual congratulation and festive cheer in good old Chinese fashion. We understand that a meeting of the heads of leading local Chinese establishments has already been held with regard to the framing of the festive programme during the stay of the distinguished visitors.—*Siam Press Press*.

THE WRATHER.

The following report is from Mr. F. G. Figg, Director of the Hongkong Observatory:—On the 5th at 12.05 p.m.—The barometer has fallen moderately over N. China owing to the depression which appears to be slowly moving Eastwards over Shanghai.

Pressure is over 0.1 inch in defect of the normal in Shanghai, while it is high over the N. part of the China Sea and above the average by 0.1 inch on the S. coast of China.

Fresh monsoon may be expected in the Formosa Channel and light monsoon and variable winds over the N. part of the China Sea.

The Japanese returns are lacking this morning. Hongkong rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.11 inch.

FORECAST.

1.—Hongkong and neighbourhood, S. winds, moderate to light; fair.
2.—Formosa Channel, S. to S. W. winds, fresh.
3.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Lamock, same as No. 1.
4.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Hainan, same as No. 1.

U.S. NAVAL GUNNERY.

HIGH PRAISE FOR PACIFIC FLEET.

A Washington despatch of 7th ult., says:—Splendid progress in target shooting with the big guns of the navy is recorded in the general order promulgated to-day by Secretary Metcalf giving the standing of the respective fleets, squadrons, divisions and vessels for the annual record target practice of 1907. The Atlantic fleet, which is the winner, scored 59.36 percent, against 59.24 p.c. for the Pacific fleet, a remarkably close contest. Last year the Pacific squadron (not the fleet) had the smallest final merit, while this year it is higher than all the other squadrons.

The Second squadron, Pacific fleet, commanded by Admiral Swinburne, which corresponds to the former Pacific squadron, has won all that it could win; that is, the cruiser, gunboat and torpedo boat trophies, there being no ships of the battleship class in that fleet. All vessels of the Second squadron, Pacific fleet, are star ships except the destroyer *Paul Jones*. A star ship is one whose final merits are at least 85 per cent. of that of the trophy winners of her class. The final merit of Admiral Swinburne's squadron is 20.4 per cent. higher than the next highest squadron.

The vessels of this squadron were the *Boston*, *Chicago*, *Charleston*, *Yorckton*, *Princeton*, *Pitt* and *Paul Jones*. The total score of this squadron was 74.866, and the *Boston* won the trophy with 79.997 per cent.

Last year there were three star ships, while this year there are ten. Last year the final merit of all ships was 64 per cent. of the highest final merit, and this year it is 71 per cent., showing a notable increase in the general efficiency of the shooting.

In the squadrons, after the Second Pacific came the Second Atlantic *Illinois*, *Kearsarge*, *Kentucky*, *Alabama*, *Tadema*, *Iowa* and *Ohio*—with 62.45 per cent., and next in order came the First Pacific, with 56.55; the Third Atlantic, with 55.515; the Fourth Atlantic, with 55.383; the First Atlantic, with 55.095, and the Third Pacific, with 40.65.

COMMERCIAL.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Reviewing the share business for the week, Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co. write on the 5th inst.:—A fair investment business has been done during the week, and rates generally have been well maintained.

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks are nominally quoted at \$68 ex new issue, and \$52 1/2 for the new issue, after sales of the latter at \$52 1/2. A sale has also been effected at \$87 1/2 cum new issue. The London rate has further advanced to £79, ex new issue, and £59 for the new shares.

Marine Insurances.—Cantons are firm at \$275 after sales at the rate. North China are quiet at \$18. Small sales have been put through at \$18 1/2 and \$18 3/4. Unions have buyers at \$90, and Yangtze at \$90 for the new shares.

Fire Insurances.—China Fires have been sold at \$87. Hongkong Fires are still on offer at \$52 1/2, without finding buyers.

Shipping.—There are inquiries for China and Manila at \$15. Douglases are steady at \$14. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats have been dealt in at \$30 and \$29 1/2. Shell Transports are quiet at 45/-.

Refineries.—China Sugars are wanted at \$100. There is no change in report in Peraks, Sugars and Juncos.

Mining.—Chinese Engineerings have slightly weakened and are offering in the North at \$15.90. Rabbits can be placed at \$6.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Kowloon Wharves are quoted at \$80. Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have not fluctuated, and remain unchanged at \$105. There are further buyers of Shanghai Docks at \$18 1/2, in the North. Hongkong Wharves have improved to \$18 1/2, but there are sellers at the rate.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Hotels are quiet at \$118, and Hongkong Lands are offering at \$105. Humphreys Estates are steady at \$19 1/2. There are buyers of Kowloon Lands at \$17. Shanghai Lands have risen to \$18 1/2, and buyers prevail. West Points are quoted at \$50.

Cotton Mills.—Kwos have been fixed at the improved rate of \$11.64. Other Cotton Mills remain unchanged.

Miscellaneous.—Sales of China Bonds have been put through at \$9. China Providents can be secured at \$9. Dairy Farms are in demand at \$15. Cements are obtainable at \$16. Hongkong Ropes have improved to \$2 1/2, and there are inquiries at the rate. Peak Tramways have been dealt in at \$10 1/2 and \$10 3/4 for the old and new shares respectively. Langkats remain unaltered at \$18 1/2 with buyers. Watsons have changed hands to a fair extent at \$11. There are buyers of Sumatras in the North at the improved rate of \$18 1/2.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

London—Bank T.T.	2/3 1/2
Do. demand	4 1/2 1/2
Do. 4 months sight	2 1/2 1/2
France—Bank T.T.	2 1/2 1/2
America—Bank T.T.	53 1/2
Germany—Bank T.T.	2 1/2 1/2
India T.T.	16 1/2
Do. demand	10 1/2
Shanghai—Bank T.T.	7 1/2
Singapore T.T.	7 1/2
Japan—Bank T.T.	10 1/2
Java—Bank T.T.	13 1/2

4 months sight L/C. 13 1/2
5 months sight L/C. 13 1/2
30 days sight San Francisco & New York. 54 1/2
30 days sight Sydney and Melbourne. 23 1/2
30 days sight France. 2 1/2
6 months sight. 2 1/2
6 months sight Germany. 2 1/2
Bar Silver. 21
Bank of England rate. 2 1/2
Bank of France. 2 1/2
Sovereigns. 2 1/2

To-day's Advertisements.

THE PEAK CHURCH.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF WORKSHIPPERS at the PEAK CHURCH will be held in the Vestry of St. John's Cathedral on WEDNESDAY, July 10th, at 2.15 P.M.

BUSINESS:—

1. To Pass the Accounts.
2. To Adopt the Report.
3. To Elect a Committee.

F. T. JOHNSON,
Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, 6th July, 1907. [642]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from G. H. PORTS, Esq., to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION,

on MONDAY,

the 15th July, 1907, commencing at 2.30 P.M., at "Clovell's" Peak Road,

A QUANTITY OF VALUABLE

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,

Comprising:—

UPHOLSTERED DRAWING ROOM SUITE, JAPANESE EMBROIDERED SCREENS, LACQUERED TABLES, ENGRAVINGS, LACE CURTAINS, STANDARD LAMPS, TIENSTIN CARPETS and RUGS, &c., &c.

EXTENSION DINING TABLE, CARVED SIDEBOARD with BEVELLED MIRROR, DINNER WAGON, WRITING DESKS, INLAID PANELS, CROCKERY and GLASSWARE, &c., &c.

BRASS and BRASS-MOUNTED DOUBLE and SINGLE BEDSTEADS, WARDROBES with BEVELLED MIRRORS, MARBLE-TOP BUREAU with BEVELLED MIRRORS, MARBLE-TOP WASHSTANDS, Specially made LINEN PRESS, CHEST-OF-DRAWERS, BOOKCASE with DESK, MEDICINE CABINET, &c., &c. BATHROOM, PANTRY and KITCHEN REQUISITES.

ALSO

A FINE SELECTION OF CANTON BLACKWOODWARE,

Comprising:—

CABINETS, TABLES, JARDINIERS and STOOLS, &c., &c.

AND

One COTTAGE PIANO, by Collard & Collard;

AND

A Large Quantity of PALMS and other PLANTS, in pots and tubs.

TERMS:—As customary.

On view from Saturday, the 13th July, 1907. GEO. P. LAMBERT, Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 6th July, 1907. [643]

THE JAPANESE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

SEARCH BY DR. SAKATANI.

Dr. Sakatani, Minister for Finance, was the principal speaker at a regular meeting on 23rd ult. of the Economic Society of Tokyo. The Minister dealt with the financial and economic conditions prevailing during the present half-year. He said that the foreign trade of the Empire, which had made marked progress last year continued to increase. The trade for the present half-year so far showed an increase of ¥60,000,000 on the figures for the corresponding period of last year. The total value of the trade for the year, he believed, might reach between ¥1,000,000,000 and ¥1,000,000,000. He was sure that the extension of financial organization and the industrial system in general would occupy the public mind. Of the agricultural industries, the result of sericulture this year was exceptionally successful, and the crops of wheat and barley also promised to be a success. The rainy season so far had been ideal, and nothing more desirable could be wished for replanting the rice. All the half-yearly accounts of banks and companies, which were published or are to be published, showed a satisfactory working. Briefly, added the Minister, it could be said that the economic circles of Japan in general this year showed a healthy growth. A deplorable experience had, however, been seen during the period, that was the collapse of the share market. Towards the end of January last, the share market had gone up to an abnormal point, but a reaction set in and the market began to come down, until in the middle of last month it reached its climax. This greatly alarmed the public, resulting in runs on several banks. Now the crisis was over, and a period was now entered upon to watch the progress of events.

Turning to works in Manchuria and Korea, the Minister went on to say that the Seoul-Wiju railway and other machinery of communications in the interior were rapidly becoming improved. In the case of the South Manchuria Railway preparations were fully completed for its improvement. The commercial and economic sphere of influence of Japan in Manchuria and Korea was rapidly becoming extended as facilities of communications were improved. The Shimonoseki Straits, which formed the channel of communication between Japan, Manchuria and Korea, proved too narrow, the improvement of the channel became necessary, and the necessary works with this end in view were not allowed to be delayed. It became also necessary to establish a good hotel and make other accommodation at Tsouru, an important point of communication with Vladivostok. Such works might be carried out with assistance from national or local taxes or by private undertaking. All these matters went towards substantiating the economic development of Japan, and at the same time gave the brightest prospects for the future. Moreover, the financial condition of the Government was so favourable that the Bonds which were intended to be issued this year were not required. In addition to these favourable factors, a Franco-Japanese agreement had been signed which would greatly assist the introduction of cheap French money to the great advantage of Japan.

Intimations

THE

ROBINSON PIANO

CO., LD.

TALKING MACHINES

AND

RECORDS.

New Stock just arrived

LARGE AND VARIED

ASSORTMENT

MUSIC.

Comic Opera Scores

and Dance Music.

RECEIVED BY EVERY MAIL.

Hongkong, 29th November, 1906. [52]

SEASONABLE WINES.

HOCKS & MOSELLES

(SOLE AGENTS FOR LANGENBACH & SOHN, WORMS-ON-RHINE).

	1 Doz. Bottles.	1/2 Doz. Bottles.
Sparkling Moselle	—	\$18.00
" Hock	—	28.00
Laubenhelm	\$13.00	15.00
Graacher	14.00	16.00
Niersteiner	15.00	17.00
Hochheimer	20.00	22.00
Liebfraumilch	24.00	26.00
California Riesling	6.50	7.50
Do. Hock	6.50	7.50

CLARETS.

	1 Doz. Bottles.	1/2 Doz. Bottles.
Vin Ordinaire	\$ 4.50	\$ 5.50
Cotes	5.00	6.00
Medoc	5.50	6.50
St. Emilion	6.50	7.50
Margaux	7.00	8.00
St. Julien	8.00	9.00
St. Estephe	10.00	11.00
Cos. St. Michel	12.50	13.50
Ch. Laorille	13.00	14.00
Ch. Laorose	13.00	14.00

Price List on application.

H. PRICE & Co., Ltd.,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

12, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

37th May, 1907.

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co. Connected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 5.

STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	VALUE.	PAID UP.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT.	AT WORKING ACCOUNT.	LAST DIVIDEND.	APPROXIMATE RETURN AT PRESENT QUOTATIONS BASED ON LAST YEAR'S INT.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	20,000	\$125	\$125	\$1,000,000	\$1,721,558	\$1.15/- and bonus of 1/- @ Ex. 2/31 = \$24.33 making \$40.80 for 1906	4 1/2 %	\$185 ex n. issue \$522 new issue London £70 ex n. issue London £59 n. issue first call
Do.	40,000	\$125	\$125	\$1,000,000	\$1,721,558	\$24.33 making \$40.80 for 1906	4 1/2 %	\$51
National Bank of China, Limited	99,925	£7	£6	\$1,273,351	\$71,273	\$2 (London 3/6) for 1905	...	\$270 buyers
MARINE INSURANCES.								
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,075,000	\$233,638	\$20 for 1905	7 1/2 %	Tls. 75
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£5	\$1,100,000	Tls. 185,570	Interim of 7/16 for account 1906 @ ex. 2/50 11.16 per tael	6 %	\$760 buyers
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	12,400	\$250	\$100	\$3,000,000	1,460,400	Final of \$12 making \$42 for 1905 and interim of 13/10 for 1906	5 1/2 %	\$175 buyers
Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited	8,000	\$100	\$60	\$1,000,000	\$461,407	\$1 for year ending 31.12.05	7 %	187 sales
FIRE INSURANCES.								
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$2,000,000	\$62,380	\$2 and bonus \$2 for 1905	9 1/2 %	\$325 sellers
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$2,000,000	\$435,236	\$40 for 1905	12 1/2 %	\$15 buyers
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	30,000	\$25	\$25	\$7,500	\$565	\$1 for 1906	6 1/2 %	\$41 buyers
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	\$50	\$50	\$1,000,000	Nil	\$2 1/2 for year ended 30.6.1906	6 %	\$29 1/2 sales
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$15	\$15	\$3,000,000	120,170	\$1 for and half-year making \$2.00 for 1906	6 1/2 %	\$59
Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited	60,000	£10	£10	\$1,200,000	£2,453	10/- @ ex. 2/1 9/16 = \$1.69 1905	...	Tls. 46 sales, Tls. 50 buyers
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	\$10,000,000	Tls. 1,337	Final of Tls. 3 1/2 making Tls. 5 1/2 (Pref.) and final of Tls. 3 making Tls. 5 1/2 (Ord.) for 1906	11 1/2 %	467
Do.	100,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	\$5,000,000	85,355.60	1/- (Coupon No. 7) for 1906	2 1/2 %	\$25
"Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$32,957	\$1.00 for year ending 30.4.1907	4 1/2 %	\$15
"Star" Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$5	\$1,000,000	Tls. 98,000	Final of Tls. 2 making Tls. 6 for 1906	12 1/2 %	Tls. 48
Taku Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	\$15,000,000	Tls. 18,730	Final of Tls. 2 making Tls. 6 for 1906	12 1/2 %	Tls. 48
REFINERIES.								
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	20,000	\$100	\$100	\$2,000,000	\$450,000	\$8 for year ending 31.12.06	8 %	\$100 buyers
Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	\$100	\$100	\$700,000	none	\$3 for 1907	...	\$21
Perak Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	\$350,000	Tls. 8,935	Tls. 4 (8%) for year ending 31.8.06	4 1/2 %	Tls. 85 sales
MINING.								
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd.	1,000,000	£1	£1	\$1,000,000	£12,516	Interim of 1/6 for a/c year ending 28.2.07	4 %	Tls. 1590 sellers
Oriental Consolidated Mining Company, Limited	500,000	G \$10	G \$10	\$5,000,000	G \$909,050	Interim of 50 cents for account 1906	...	G \$5
Pauk Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	50,000	£1	£1	\$500,000	£8,745	No. 12 of 1/- = 48 cents	...	\$6 buyers
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Fenwick (Geo.) & Co., Limited	18,000	\$25	\$25	\$450,000	\$20,335	\$1.75 for year ending 31.12.06	10 %	\$127 1/2 sellers
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.	40,000	\$50	\$50	\$2,000,000	\$3,047	Final of \$2 1/2 making \$5 for 1906	6 1/2 %	\$80
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd.	50,000	\$50	\$50	\$2,500,000	\$400,933	\$6 for and half-year making \$12 for 1906	11 1/2 %	\$105 sellers
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd.	55,700	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	\$5,570,000	Tls. 3,997	Final of Tls. 4 making Tls. 8 for 1905/6	10 1/2 %	Tls. 76 buyers
Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Company, Limited	36,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	\$3,600,000	Tls. 23,117	Final of Tls. 10 making Tls. 18 for year ending 31.12.06 on old capital	8 1/2 %	Tls. 212 1/2 sellers
Yangtze Wharf and Godown Company, Limited	2,500	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	\$250,000	Tls. 12,936	Tls. 18 for 1905	8 1/2 %	Tls. 212 1/2
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.								
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ltd.	25,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	\$2,500,000	Tls. 3,388	Tls. 6 for 14 1/2 months ending 28.2.07	6 %	Tls. 103
Astor House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)	30,000	\$25	\$25	\$750,000	\$8,418	\$3 for year ended 30.6.1906	10 1/2 %	\$28 1/2
Central Hotels, Limited	50,123	\$15	\$15	\$751,845	19,178	\$1.80 for 1906	12 %	\$15
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	12,000	\$50	\$50	\$600,000	\$64,975	\$5 for second half-year making \$10 for 1906	8 1/2 %	\$118
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.	50,000	\$100	\$100	\$5,000,000	\$56,218	Final div. of \$3 1/2 making \$7 for 1906	6 1/2 %	\$104
Hôtel des Colonies Company, Limited	9,000	Tls. 25	Tls. 25	\$225,000	Tls. 1,935	Final of 6% = 10% for 1905	12 1/2 %	Tls. 13
Hôtel Métropole Company, Limited	2,000	\$100	\$100	\$200,000	none	Final of \$6 making \$10	12 1/2 %	\$80
Humphreys Estate & Finance Company, Limited	150,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,500,000	\$11,567	80 cents for 1906	7 1/2 %	\$101
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	\$50	\$50	\$300,000	\$1,089	\$2 1/2 for 1906	6 1/2 %	\$37 buyers
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	78,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	\$3,900,000	Tls. 61,978	Final div. of Tls. 3 & bonus Tls. 1 1/2 (old sh.) & div. of 75 cts. & bonus of 1/2 cts. (new sh.) for 1906	7 1/2 %	Tls. 1.4 buyers
West Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	\$50	\$50	\$625,000	\$1,519	Final div. of \$2.10 making \$4.10 for 1906	8 1/2 %	\$50
COTTON MILLS.								
Anglo-Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd.	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	\$750,000	Tls. 64,886	Tls. 10 for year ended 31.10.1906	15 1/2 %	Tls. 64 sales
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Co., Ltd.	125,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,250,000	Tls. 45,939	\$1 1/2 for the year ending 31.7.06	11 %	\$11
Cottonspinning, Limited	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	\$750,000	Tls. 36,111	Tls. 6 for year ended 30.9.06 (8%)	12 %	Tls. 50
Laow-kung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	\$800,000	Tls. 31,459	Tls. 8 for 1906	9 1/2 %	Tls. 8 1/2 buyers
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 500	\$1,000,000	Tls. 50,163	Tls. 50 for 1906	15 1/2 %	Tls. 330
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Anglo-German Brewery Company, Limited	4,000	\$100	\$100	\$400,000	\$906	\$7 for 1906	8 %	187 buyers
Bell's Asbestos & Glass Agency, Limited	1,604	12/6	2/6	\$19,248	\$256	1/3 per share for 1905	8 1/2 %	57 sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co., Limited	1,200	\$10	\$10	\$12,000	3653	\$3 for 1906	...	20 sellers
China-Borneo Company, Limited	10,000	\$12	\$12	\$120,000	Nil	\$1 for 1904	...	19 sales
China Flour Mill Co., Limited	4,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	\$200,000	Tls. 189	Final of Tls. 5 making Tls. 10 for 1905	15 1/2 %	Tls. 64 sellers
China Light and Power Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$500,000	\$25,000	60 cents for year ended 28.2.06	...	\$64
Do.	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$500,000	\$25,000	80 cents for 1906	9 %	\$6 sales
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ltd.	100,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$11,500	\$1.30 for year ending 31.7.1906	8 1/2 %	\$15 buyers
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	25,000	\$7 1/2	\$7 1/2	\$187,500	\$2,555	Final of \$1 1/2 making \$2.00 for 1906	12 1/2 %	\$16 sales
Green Island Cement Company, Limited	200,000	\$10	\$10	\$2,000,000	\$10,804	\$2 1/2 for year ending 28.2.07	11 %	\$21 buyers
Hill & Hoist, Limited	21,000	\$20	\$20	\$420,000	\$15,022	1 per share for year ending 28.2.07	7 %	\$14
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	\$10	\$10	\$600,000	\$2,933	Final of \$1 1/2 making \$2 for year ending 31.12.06	9 1/2 %	\$24 1/2 buyers
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	\$25	\$25	\$125,000	\$4,361	\$2.00 for year ending 31.12.06	9 %	\$22 buyers
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$500,000	\$4,312	Second interim div. of Tls. 7 1/2 for a/c 1907	10 %	Tls. 292 1/2 buyers
Maatschappij tot Mijn- en Bosch- en Landbouw- en Planten te Langkat, Limited	25,000	Gs. 100	Gs. 100	\$2,500,000	Tls. 10,374	\$1 per sh. or period of 19th Oct. to 30th Apr. 07	...	\$1.01 sa. and b. \$1.05 sales 35 buyers
Peak Tramways Company, Limited	25,000	\$10	\$10	\$250,000	\$2,655	None	...	Tls. 107 sellers
Peak Tramways Company (new)	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$500,000	Tls. 7,990	Final of Tls. 3 1/2 and bonus of Tls. 1 1/2 for year ending 31.12.06	4 1/2 %	Tls. 45 sales
Philippine Company, Limited	75,000	\$10	\$10	\$750,000	Tls. 3,374	Tls. 4 for 1905	12 1/2 %	Tls. 80 sellers
Shanghai Gas Company, Limited	24,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	\$1,200,000	Tls. 7,843	Final of Tls. 5 and Tls. 10 for 1906	9 %	Tls. 110 buyers
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.	5,400	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	\$270,000	Tls. 9,751	Interim div. of 1/2 for 4-year 1906	...	Tls. 375
Shanghai Pulp and Paper Company, Limited	4,500	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	\$450,000	Tls. 3,374	Interim div. of 5/- for 4-year 1906	...	Tls. 295
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 20	Tls. 20	\$600,000	Tls. 8,592	None	...	\$7 sales
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	8,175	£20	£20	\$163,500	Tls. 190,000	Interim div. of 1/2 for 4-year 1906	...	Tls. 100 buyers
South China Morning Post, Limited	7,500	£20	£20	\$150,000	Tls. 190,000	Interim div. of 1/2 for 4-year 1906	...	\$12 1/2 sales
Steam Laundry Company, Limited	20,000	\$15	\$15	\$300,000	Tls. 190,000	30 cts. (old) & 15 cts. (new) year ended 31.5.06	4 1/2 %	\$7 sales
Tientsin Waterworks Company, Limited	1,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	\$100,000	Tls. 1,012	Interim of Tls. 4 for year 1905/6	7 1/2 %	Tls. 100 buyers
Union Waterboat Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$500,000	\$5,482	First year	...	\$12 1/2 sales
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$100,000	\$4,500	70 cents on 9,000 ord. shares and \$3.90 on 100 Founders for year ending 31.12.06	6 1/2 %	\$101 buyers
Walson, (A. S.) & Co., Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$500,000	\$5,482	Final of 40 cents per share making 80 cents for year ending 31.12.07	7 1/2 %	\$11 sales
William Powell, Limited	15,000	\$10	\$10	\$150,000	\$4,500	Final of 30 cts. making 60 cts. for the year ended 30th June, 1906	10 %	\$8

*These shares are entitled to half of the profits.

Halls.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.



THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA, ADEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.

(Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL, AMERICAN and SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.)

THE Steamship

"CHINA."

Captain E. Street, carrying His Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this office for BOMBAY, &c., on SATURDAY, the 13th July, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports, in connection with the Company's S.S. *Mooltan*, 6,500 tons, from Colombo, Passengers' accommodation in which vessel is secured before departure from Hongkong.

Silk and Valuables, all Cargo for France and Tea for London (under arrangement), will be transhipped at Colombo into the Mail steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London, other Cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed from Bombay by the R.M.S. *China*, due in London on 18th August, 1907.

Parcels will be received at this Office until 4 P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and Value of all Packages are required.

For further Particulars, apply to
E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 1st July, 1907.

The S.S. "SYDNEY"

Captain, Barillon, will be despatched for MARSEILLES on TUESDAY, the 9th July, at 1 P.M.

Passage tickets and through Bills of Lading issued for above ports and for Australia with prompt transshipment at Colombo.

Cargo also booked for principal places in Europe.

Next sailings will be as follows:—

S.S. *ERNEST SIMONS*.....23rd July.
S.S. *TOKIN*.....6th August.
S.S. *SALAZIE*.....20th August.
S.S. *POLYNESIEN*.....3rd Sept.
S.S. *TOURANE*.....17th Sept.
S.S. *AUSTRALIEN*.....1st Oct.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX, Agent.

Hongkong, 25th June, 1907.

Intimations.

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Hongkong, 16th May, 1907.

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